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European Competition For American Oil Well Equipment Manufacturers

Speech delivered to the Los Angeles Chapter of NOMADS on December 14, 1955, by William T. Powell, President, Emsco Manufacturing Company and Chairman of the Board of Emsco Engineering Company Ltd., St. Albans, S. C., England.

To avoid confusion, I want to say at the outset that my comments are limited to the manufacturing of drilling annd producing equipment for the oil fields. Also when I talk of European manufacturers, of necessity I must exclude all equipment from iron curtain countries, even though there is some evidence that this can be a source of potential competition in future years. Because the United States has been a pioneer of the manufacturing and development of oil field equipment, experience in this line is predominantly the specialty of United States companies. Nevertheless, oil field equipment has been manufactured in Europe for many years.

Prior to World War I, European equipment was used in the Roumanian, Polish, and Russian oil fields. Some of the early work in Latin America was done with cable tools which were produced in Europe.

At the end of World War I, several English firms decided to manufacture oil field machinery. By 1930 the number of companies were greatly reduced. Shortly before World War II, manufacturers of these products were limited to England, Holland, Germany, and to a smaller extent, to Italy. These companies who survived either manufactured as licensees of United States manufacturers, or they were dealing with purely local markets. In some instances the equipment was purchased by companies whose main purchasing offices were in countries where the equipment was being manufactured.

The decline in European manufacturing was largely because foreign operators preferred United States equipment. United States equipment was preferred first, because it was of more modern design and second, it was field tested. The only exceptions were where dollars were not readily available or local policy directed that purchases be made within the country concerned.

At the end of the second World War an even greater interest in the manufacture of oil field drilling and producing equipment was evidenced in Europe. Many European countries had been unable to purchase equipment for six or seven years and because of the war were unable to do any development of their own. Also the currency problem had become acute, so it appeared that the circumstances for manufaturing after World War II were much more favorable than in 1920.

About 1949, the British manufacturers organized the **Council of British Manufacturers of Petroleum Equipment,** an organization similar to our **Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association.** Within the last few years a second association has been formed to include most of the European manufacturers. It is my understanding that the British council, although a separate group, has representation on the European council.

For the second quarter of 1955, from where the latest figures are available, the British council reported that sales of "special equipment for oil drilling and producing, including oil well casing and tubing, totaled approximately $9,000,000." I do not have a detailed breakdown, but I feel it would be safe to assume that a large percentage of this was in casing and tubing.

There are about 290 rigs in operation outside of the Americas. These rigs range in size from the **Failing 15** to the **Emsco 1400** or the **National 130.**

The United Kingdom today can and does produce almost any kind of equipment for the drilling and producing of oil wells. Some companies are manufacturing to original United States designs or have copied United States designs. The majority of the equipment sold is that of United States design manufactured by European affiliates or under license.

The domestic market in England is small. The latest report shows six rigs running. From this it is obvious that the domestic market in England will not support the industry.

About 70 rigs are reported running in West Germany. As in the

past, West Germany is largely self-sufficient in the equipment field. Most are of native design, with the possible exception of rock bits. It is my understanding that Germany has been able to make and supply its domestic market from domestic sources with practically all rigs and very few have been imported. Likewise, very few German rigs have been exported to other countries.

It is reported that Italy has about 28 rigs running at this time. Two manufacturers currently make rotary drilling equipment and a third has been reported to have been licensed, but is not yet in production. Even so, it is estimated that not more than 30% of the rigs in operation in Italy were manufactured there. Manufacturing is limited to drilling machinery, including slush pumps. Because of the relatively small market and high development cost, Italian equipment measured by United States standards gives the appearance of being antiquated.

France reports 24 rigs running, all of which were imported either from United States or England. To my knowledge at the present time they make only slush pumps and some specialty items.

Five rigs are reported operating in Holland. As far as I know, Holland does not make any drilling equipment, but does manufacture pumping units and bottom hole pumps. Both the pumping units and bottom hole pumps are being operated in foreign areas, but purchasing for these items is done in Holland.

Yugoslavia reports 12, Spain 3 and Portugal 2. To my knowledge, no equipment is being made in any of these countries.

The Austrian picture is a little confused at present because some of the oil properties are in the process of being returned to the original owners. Sucker rods, slush pumps, and pumping units are currently being made in Austria. The rods are an alloy grade, and it is my understanding that almost the entire production is being sold in South America—mostly in Venezuela and some in Argentina.

From this it can be seen that at this time Western Europe is operating about 164 rigs. This is fewer

William T. Powell

than is currently operating in the State of California.

North Africa has about 35 rigs running with no manufacturing facilities. Most of these rigs are of American design and manufacture.

There are about 36 rigs in the Middle East. Here again, there are no manufacturing facilities and it is probable that 50% are of British manufacture.

There are about 40 to 45 rigs operating in Asia and the probabilities are that at least 80% are of British manufacture.

Australia has 9 rigs, most of them being of United States manufacture.

Other than small shipments of pipe in times of shortage, very little European material has been sold in the United States.

Some production machinery has been shipped into western Canada, but by and large, the European manufacturer has not been able to make much headway in this traditional United States market.

Thus, in order to achieve permanence and avoid the trouble of the "between wars period," the European manufacturer must turn to the only remaining market which is available to him—the Latin American market. This market has been dominated by United States manufacturers.

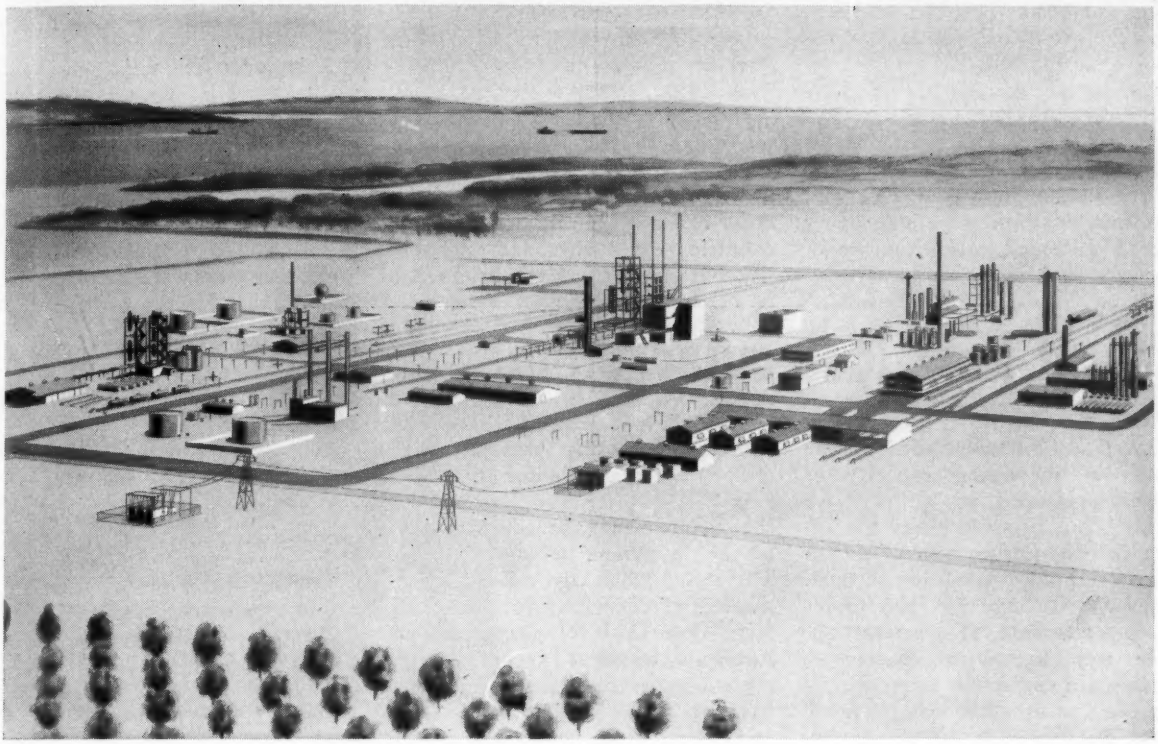
European equipment is already being purchased, particularly for Venezuela and Colombia, where either the oil company purchasing power is located in Europe or where money exchange is more favorable. It would appear, therefore, that the market which the European manufacturer must reach if he is to survive is that of federally-owned oil operations in Central and South America where production is still largely undeveloped, and where the companies are either short of dollars or cannot obtain necessary United States credit.

Several European countries, notably Italy, France and West Germany, are offering long term credit to these countries. In some cases, it is offered for a period of five years in order to stimulate European manufacturing. Barter is also being considered in order that the products produced by the Latin American countries can be exchanged for European merchandise. Germany, particularly, is reported as offering extremely long credit to South America.

Because operators in Latin American countries have a preference for United States design, it would appear that equipment made under United States licenses by European manufacturers would have a distinct advantage over the so-called copies; nevertheless, extended credit might be the determining factor.

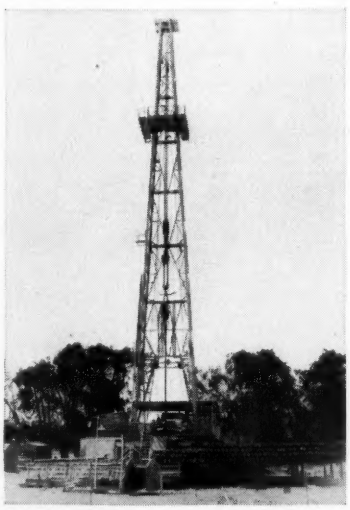
Contract drilling is on the increase in foreign fields. In many cases the contractor is taking at least partial payment in local currency. It would appear that the European manufacturer might make sales to this class of customer. Oil companies frequently have local currency to spend and some companies have the policy of wanting to spend part of their earnings in the country in which the earnings were made.

With one or two exceptions, to date the European manufacturer has not been able to produce equipment at a price comparable with United States, even though labor rates in European countries are lower. In my opinion, therefore, any growth, or in some cases, survival, for the European manufacturer in the drilling and producing equipment field must be in Latin America. To do so, sales to these countries must be made either through barter or on extended terms, possibly with their government support. I cannot help but feel that because



Architect's sketch of Du Pont's new integrated plant under construction at Antioch, California.

Du Pont West Coast *TEL* plant to be completed in 1956



This drilling rig bored 7,000 feet into the earth at the new Du Pont Antioch plant to provide a means of waste disposal without the hazard of contaminating surface water or subterranean water resources. This is the first part of the project to be completed.

Today at Antioch, on California's San Joaquin River, you can see 200 construction workers building what will be the world's most efficient tetraethyl lead manufacturing plant.

Like part of Du Pont's Chambers Works TEL plant in New Jersey, the new plant is designed for continuous process operation.

Many share benefits

Du Pont's multi-million dollar Antioch plant will provide West Coast refiners with "next door" service, quick deliveries and an additional source of supply.

Besides TEL, there will be integrated facilities for producing Du Pont "Freon" refrigerants, sodium, ethyl chloride, trichlorethylene and perchlorethylene. Sodium is widely used in metal descaling. Trichlorethylene will go to West Coast aircraft and metal fabricators for use in degreasing metal parts. Principal perchlorethylene consumer will be the dry cleaning industry. Sodium and ethyl chloride are necessary in TEL production.

To some 500 persons—most of them to be hired locally—the new plant will mean secure futures and steady employment.

A customer, too

As a producer of chemicals, the plant will also become an important new customer for the area. Three primary raw materials to be used by the plant —salt, lead and propane—will be purchased locally. And both customers and suppliers will find the location readily accessible by both rail and water.

Currently the Petroleum Chemicals Division's Du Pont West Coast facilities include sales offices at Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle, as well as a regional laboratory at El Monte. The Antioch unit will complete an integrated local service organization in this growing marketing area.

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of the currency problem, we will see extended competition along these lines.

Earlier I commented on Iron Curtain country manufacturers. I saw recently where Roumania was exhibiting a 1500 H.P. drilling rig at the Indian Industrial Fair and that smaller sizes were also being offered. Included in the Roumanian list were such items as drawworks, mobile hoists mounted on trucks, rotary tables, slush pumps both power and steam, rock bits, subsurface pumps, gas and oil separators.

It was reported that the Indian government had already ordered Russian survey equipment and drilling rigs. However, the size of the order had not been disclosed. These countries could also, and probably will, attempt to enter what has been traditionally United States export markets.

It is my opinion that in the export areas I have outlined, we can expect much greater competition in the next few years than we have experienced in the past. I have no recommendations as to how this challenge should be met, believing it to be the responsibility of the individual company.

Use of Low Molecular Weight Absorption Oil

By R. J. HULL,
Gas Processing Associates,
Fullerton, California

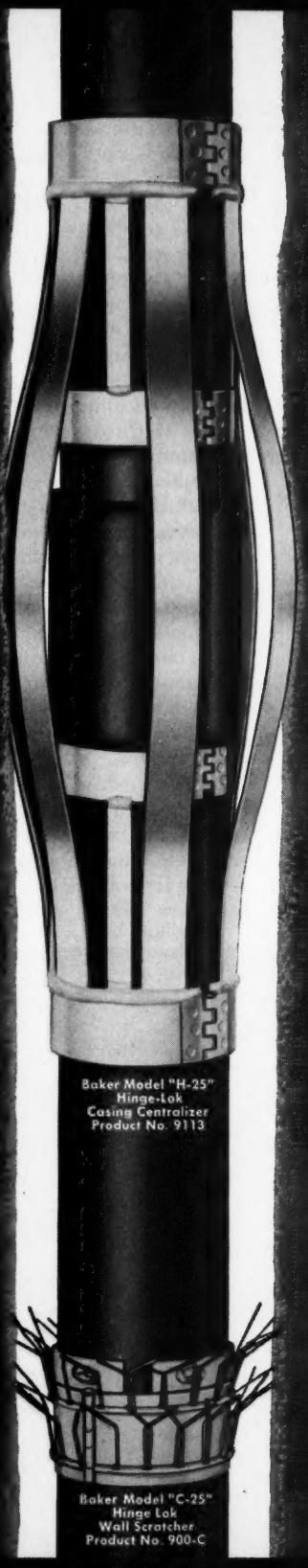
Lowering lean oil molecular weight has been mentioned as one means of increasing capacity or efficiency of existing absorption plants. This procedure has the advantage of requiring little or no additional capital expenditure in most situations. It may be used to increase extraction at constant absorber wet gas and lean oil rates or to maintain extraction at increasing wet gas and constant lean oil rates.

For the purposes of this discussion, a typical high molecular weight oil has a 50% distillation temperature of 480-500°F, API gravity of 36 to 38°, and molecular weight of about 200. A typical low molecular weight oil has a 50% distillation temperature of 430-450°F, API gravity of 40 to 42°, and molecular weight of about 75. These typical data apply to relatively naphenic California oils. The more paraffinic Mid-Continent oils have higher gravities for the same molecular weight.

The advantage of low molecular weight lean oil is based on its higher mols per gallon relationship. For a given number of gallons circulated, more mols of lower molecular weight oil are circulated, however capacities of absorbers, strippers, pumps, and heat exchangers remain primarily a function of the number of gallons circulated. Mathematically, the lower mols per gallon operate through the absorption factor developed in the absorber. Using 200 vs. 175 molecular weight oils as an example; at constant gas rate and at constant oil rate in gallons, the increase in absorption factor on going from 200 molecular weight to 175 molecular weight is a number approaching 200/175 = 1.14, or a 14% increase. A ratio developed in this manner may be considered to be the "apparent" advantage ratio. The actual advantage ratio is somewhat less, depending on the operating pressure of the absorber. Again mathematically, the effect of pressure operates through the relative importance of the lean oil term and the moles extracted term in the absorption factor function. As an approximate rule of thumb for average California gases, in the 50-100 psig range the actual/apparent advantage ratio is 1.0. As operating pressures rise toward 500-800 psig, the actual/apparent advantage ratio decreases to about 0.7 (in the above example, at 500 psig, 14% x 0.7 = 10% advantage). As pressures rise above 800 psig, an effect of relatively increased solubility of methane in the lower molecular weight oil starts to become important, and in the 1500 psig range this effect operates sufficiently to return the actual/apparent advantage ratio to 1.0.

Reduction or elimination of lean oil makeup is usually a byproduct of maintenance of low molecular weight oil in the plant system. The ideal operation simultaneously maintains low molecular weight oil, low oil vaporization losses to discharge gas in the top of the absorber, and a balanced total system volume of oil. In considering low molecular weight operation, the economics of lean oil losses out the top of the absorber are important. As the oil molecular weight is lowered, the lean oil losses tend to increase and for each plant situation there is an economic optimum balance between losses and molecular weight. To arrive at the exact proper balance is somewhat difficult because of limitations in our calculation and analytical tools. The present CNGA lean oil vapor pressure method for estimating oil losses to discharge gas is satisfactory for losses of unstripped light ends in high molecular weight oils, but predicts higher vaporization losses than actually are realized for low molecular weight oils. A CNGA Subcommittee is currently working to develop answers to this problem.

The following items affect the achievement of the ideal plant oil operation described above. 1. Stripper Operation. Preheat temperature, stripping steam, and reflux rates affect the front end characteristics of the lean oil and the split between lean oil and gasoline. The gross front end characteristics determine the absorber lean oil losses, and the oil-gasoline split affects the plant oil volumetric balance. 2. Stripper Control. Good instrumentation and control are particularly important because of their effect on plant oil balance. Large volumes of intermediate boiling fractions belonging to the equilibrium system oil may be lost to gasoline during even short times of poor process control. These fractions enter the plant only at a limited rate, and their loss has the net result of a loss of plant oil volume and use of purchased makeup oil. 3. Stripping System Design. Basically ,the stripping system must have the fractionating ability to separate properly lean oil and gasoline. If both very low oil losses to discharge gas and very low molecular weight oil are desired, a two stage fractionating system of some type is required. 4. Intake of Heavy



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... BAKER CASING CENTRALIZERS to provide clearance for a uniform body of cement around the casing—and BAKER WALL SCRATCHERS to scratch away the mud cake and expose the formation for better bonding of the cement.

EFFECTIVE CENTERING

BAKER CASING CENTRALIZERS have a balanced combination of proper spring *length*, and proper *bowed height* to provide EFFECTIVE CENTERING FORCE over the entire area to be cemented. And each spring is pre-tested and pre-set to ensure having this Vital Centering Force *at the cementing point* regardless of depth or hole deviations.

CONTROLLED SCRATCHING

BAKER WALL SCRATCHERS perform a "Controlled" scratching job because the wires remain close against the casing while running in the hole and *do not damage the vital filter cake* on the way down the hole. Only when the actual "wall scratching operation" is commenced, do the overlapping wires (mounted in a strong DOUBLE shell) go to work scratching away the mud sheath and exposing the formation for *far better bonding* of the cement.

AVAILABLE IN EXACT TYPE AND SIZE REQUIRED

Baker Casing Centralizers are available in either the hinged (Model "H" HINGE-LOK, Product No. 9113, illustrated) or slip-on (Model "G", Product No. 910-G) models, each with a complete range of spring-bowed heights for each casing OD—one exactly right for most casing clearance programs. Baker Model "C" Wall Scratchers are also available in either the hinged (Model "C" HINGE-LOK, Product No. 900-C, illustrated) or slip-on (Model "C" Solid Ring, Product No. 901-C) models with your choice of 2½-inch (C-25) or 4½-inch (C-45) scratcher wires. Ask your Baker Representative about this *outstanding combination* for better primary cementing.

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WALL SCRATCHERS
CASING CENTRALIZERS

Ends. The greater the input of heavy (not necessarily black oil) heavy ends in the intake gas, the easier is the maintenance of a proper low molecular weight oil. The inclusion of some drips, perhaps otherwise excluded from the oil, may assist in some plant situations. 5. Reclaimer Still Design and Operation. The reclaimer still should have the ability to make a good split between black oil and useful absorption oil. If relatively large amounts of black oil are to be excluded from the plant, particular attention should be paid in still design and/or operation to the amounts of useful oil lost with the black oil bottoms.

Summing up, plants having reasonably good fractionating strippers with good instrumentation and control, having proper reclaimer systems, and having normal amounts of intake heavy ends, should be able to realize the benefits of simultaneous low molecular weight lean oil and near or complete balance of system oil volume.

(Presented before recent meeting, California Natural Gasoline Association.)

News of the Pyles Boys Camp

An oil company opened its doors —and its heart—Thursday evening, December 15, to a group of young boys.

The story began last summer when Ben Bayliss, petroleum engineer with the Lloyd Corporation along with his wife, took two weeks of their time to lend a helping hand at the R. M. Pyles Boys Camp in the High Sierras.

This camp, originated and financed by California oil men, is entering its eighth year of helping deserving youths who come from virtually every oil producing area of California. Last summer Ben acted as a counselor and became pretty good friends with the boys in his charge. At the close of the camping season Ben and his boys naturally went their separate ways.

As the Christmas season approached, Ben thought back to last summer and got the idea for a Christmas get-together. And what better place for a reunion of oil men with their young friends than at an oil company? So Ben secured the use of the Lloyd Corporation's offices at 9441 West Olympic in Beverly Hills, for the evening, from his boss, Richard von Hagen, who is also a director of the camp.

Boys were rounded up from Watts, Elysian Park, Lincoln Heights and other areas and, along with Ben, camp director Bob McAdams and others interested in the camp, met at the offices.

Refreshments were served, a recent movie of the camp was shown, presents were given, and a wonderful time was had by a group of young Americans who might otherwise have had a not-so-merry Christmas.

Shell Chemical Announces Latex Plant

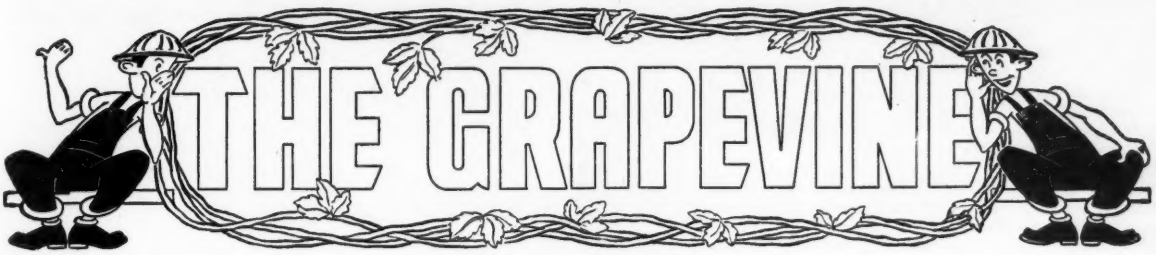
The first cold high solids latex—used in making foam rubber—to be manufactured west of the Rockies will be produced in new facilities to be built at Shell Chemical Corporation's Torrance Synthetic Rubber Plant, R. C. McCurdy, president, announced. Construction is to start immediately.

He said the latex facilities will be part of a general program of additions and improvements designed to increase both the diversity and the quality of the plant's output. The plant was not equipped to make cold high solids latex when Shell Chemical bought it from the government earlier this year. The new latex facilities, comprising additional base reactor capacity as well as latex finishing equipment, are intended to meet a growing demand for this material in the western states. Virtually all cold high solids latex is used in foam rubber, such as that in mattresses and upholstery.

Mr. McCurdy said the company, in planning these additions and improvements, was guided by the best available indications of customer preferences as to types and quality of rubber desired in the market. The new equipment to be installed, in addition to increasing the flexibility of the plant for production in normal times will, in a period of national emergency, assist the plant in turning out more of the essential types of rubber than has hitherto been possible.

Fred Blair Townsend of Phoenix, one of the largest holders of prospective oil land in Arizona, has been vacationing at Del Coronado, California.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Jim Atkins and Ronald Russell, Los Angeles youths, are about to receive presents from Ben Bayliss, Lloyd Corporation engineer, while Manuel Urban, Jr., looks on.



By RICHARD SNEDDON

Arnold Opus Off Press

Word from Ralph Arnold, the noted geologist and world traveler, who is now busy as the proverbial birddog on a series of books, indicates that the A. H. Cawton Company has just published one Arnold opus which, besides presenting a unique history of Pasadena, contains over 100 autobiographies of interesting pioneers who lived in the Crown City prior to 1900. It also features an article on the geology of Pasadena by the author. The book is 471 pages long and is well illustrated with pictures of early Pasadena people and scenes. Other works now in the oven, as it were, are the California oil story; a volume on Venezuela; and a third one dealing with the personal experiences of Ralph Arnold, of which, we can assure you, he has had plenty. This prolific expositor of the petroleum world is now living in Santa Barbara where he is practically buried in textbooks, musty tomes, yellow parchments, and a miscellany of maps and charts, from which he only emerges at rare intervals to snatch a bite. He seems to be standing the strain nobly, however, and has distinct hope that his ANIMUS SCRIBENDE will prevail until he completes the considerable task to which he has dedicated himself.

We Join the Wildcats

With George Murray, the Tide Water public relationist, sometimes known as George Tirebiter, we barged out to the Palladium on the night of the Wildcat High Jinks, and had hardly disembarked at the bebop palace when we were literally surrounded by oil pepole, many of whom we hadn't seen for several hours. It was a terrific congregation and our right arm was worn off almost to the elbow before we reached the press table, where, thanks to Warren Hillgren, the pleasant mannered young chap from WOGA, we were given a place with the petrolic segment of the fourth estate. After exchanging greetings with the press boys we skipped about here and there, picking up morsels of fresh gossip and the latest bit of salacity to drift in from the doghouses, all of which we'll tell you sometime when we get you by yourself.

And See a Show

Meantime, leave us get down to a discussion of the show which as usual was in two parts, an amateur production, entitled, "Progress Smogress," and a professional extravaganza, known as "La vie, l'amour, Paris!" Both of these we enjoyed no end. The professional talent was selected, we are told, by Henry Salvatori, and it was really tophole. Don't know when we have had such an unrestrained fit of laughing as we did at the antics of Paul Gilbert. His "medic" skit was a riot and, incidentally, the audience was pretty cold when he first came on, but it wasn't long until he had them warmed up and eating out of his hand. As for the sparsely clad ladies, they came up with some altogether novel twitches that, in some cases, were emphasized in no uncertain manner by the ingenious employment of luminescent paints strategically placed. It was all very spectacular and was by every measure one of the best and most appropriate assemblies of talent ever mustered for a Wildcat shindig.

The Play is the Thing

As for the Ed Stroud opus, "Progress-Smogress," it too was of a high order with some pretty sharp performances being turned in by the untamed felines. We especially liked Peg Whealton's rendition of the Davy Crockett saga as adapted for local use. No frontiersman ever leaned more comfortably on a carbine than did Peg as he unfolded in song an amazing story of marketing intrigue and skullduggery. And there were other stars! Wendell Jones did a near professional job of handling a ditty entitled "Placerita." Wendell has all the motions and emotions of an old trouper and he put over his stint in good style. Then there was Bill Tetsch, the Terminal vaudevillian, making his first appearance in a Wildcat show and doing right well as a tramp who had somehow become involved in the Huntington Beach scramble. And Frank Carter in another of his female roles, this time Madelyn Madison, a lady of questionable virtue who knew all about oil men. Frank makes an excellent gal—a bit on the tall side perhaps but he has the right facial features and with a few built-in contours properly distributed, does exceedingly well in a feminine role.

The Legitimate Stage

Homer Steiny, the permanent player, was in again this time and did a good job as "the oil man of the year." Homer is lovely people and has been appearing in these skits for so long we can't remember when he wasn't in one. Indeed, they would seem incomplete without him. By popular request, Russ

OF SPORT COATS AND STUFF

Roger S. "Pete" Peterson, emissary of public relations and sales for Shaffer Tool Works, is a chunky sort of chap with a pleasant disposition and a nice assortment of sport coats. He was born in Eagle Grove, Iowa, but at the early age of eight developed a nasty case of wanderlust and dragged his parents off to California in search of the eternal sunshine. Here he attended the local schools and in the latter years of his education used his vacation time to garner some experience in the industrial world. He worked for the Morrison Knudsen Company on various construction projects, and subsequently acquired an intimate knowledge of oilwell cementing in all its phases during a 13 year association with Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company. He moved over to Shaffer's sales department in 1948 and has been a considerable attache of that illustrious organization ever since.

Pete is an always nattily attired chap who has become somewhat famous, first, as a demonstrator of what the successful business man should wear and, second, as the unwitting cause of much confusion. Many people seem to have difficulty in differentiating between him and Verdi Boyer. Indeed, the two boys frequently get credit for each other's accomplishments and misdemeanors although actually they don't resemble one another so very much. They are about the same size and both are husky, durable looking chaps, but they could certainly not be classed as identicals.

In his extra-curricular moments, Pete is

given to a strange species of greensward mayhem that, for want of a better name, he calls "golf." However, we have seen a similar routine performed, on a larger scale, of course, by a steam scoop-shovel. There is no question, though, that Pete has acquired some astonishing variations in the common art of divot tossing. He can dig a deep and wide pit immediately under a reclining golf ball with either an iron or a wood; can send an 8 pound clod high into the air; and can do all of this, mark you, without disturbing the ball ever so slightly. He is quite a student of the mathematics of golf and informs us that when the head of a wooden club, such as a driver or brassie, strikes the face of a golf ball, it is traveling at a speed in excess of 90 miles an hour. This explains very nicely why the ball is usually driven so far into the ground.

When not particularly in search of physical exertion, Pete finds his amusement in a less strenuous pastime, known variously as gin rummy, watsamahoochie, and "are you ready, kid?" This is an advanced form of put and take in which the losers mutter darkly in their beards, such endearments as, "The lucky stiffs!" and "What good is science?" while the winners are having their ears moved back so that they can grin more widely.

Beside being a proponent of the manly exercises, Pete is a sports fan of the most confirmed type. He is a lover of football, basketball, baseball and, in fact, enjoys any kind of a contest, which is no doubt why he tackles his work with so much zest. And, it speaks well for him that even his competitors hold him in high regard. He lives in Whittier with his lovely lady and is the daddy of two boys and a girl. He is a popular member of the Petroleum Club of Los Angeles, the Clock Country Club, and is also affiliated with the Elks and Masons. Altogether, Pete has the qualities by which the people of the oil derricks normally distinguish what they call "a good guy."

Green was back with his famed Tool Pusher song which has had a longer run than "Abie's Irish Rose." Russ has a good voice and the song has a catchy swing, so it went as big as ever with the 1955 audience. Others who had considerable parts to play, and comported themselves with distinction were John McMillan, moderator and radio station announcer, who functioned as straight man for Bill Pemberton (the old reliable), Madelyn Madison, and other participants in quiz type dialogues. John has fine enunciation and a voice that carries, two mighty important essentials when one is performing before 2000 oil men on their night out.

All the World's a Stage

An interesting part of the amateur show was a round-table discussion involving a quintet of high oil executives, portrayed by Bud McDuffie, Ken Faulkner, Ward Blodget, Ed Riddle, Virgil Baker, and Joe Hudson. This was productive of lots of quips and quibbles that were thoroughly enjoyed and also gave Ken Faulkner an opportunity to burst into song which he did very entertainingly. Ken is another lad who has a good singing voice and merely needs the right medium and he'll give Perry Como a run for his money. Tom Sherman, the Huntington State Company smoothie, took care of the introductions very neatly and without a hitch, and Henry Salvatori functioned nicely as the radio announcer with a grist of commercials that poked some good clean fun at the products of local refiners. Altogether, this was, in our opinion, one of the best High Jinks ever staged by the Wildcats, so our hearty congratulations to the Committee for an evening of unalloyed entertainment.

Petroleum Clubbers Cavort

The Directors Holiday Ball of the Petroleum Club of Los Angeles, held in the Pacific Ball Room of the Statler Hotel on December 2, was a delightful affair that will be long remembered by the members and guests who participated. Arrangements were in charge of Mrs. Jim Kelley and she was well aided in her assignment by Mesdames Dave Carnahan, Sam Grinsfelder, Jack Graves, Bo Weill, and Larry Graham. Hostesses were the wives of current directors, to wit, Mesdames A. C. Rubel, Olen Lane, J. C. Kelley, David E. Day, R. G. Whealton, Tom Wallace, G. S. Follansbee, Jr., S. F. Bowlby, and R. O. Swayze. The party opened with a cocktail session in the club lounge after which every one migrated to the Pacific Ball Room for dinner and dancing.

The Light Fantastic

Music was furnished by Leighton Noble and his orchestra and entertainment was provided by the Mercer Brothers, Marion Morgan, and Ken Carr, all of whom acquitted themselves nobly, if you know what we mean. An interesting feature of the program was the distribution of favors to the ladies—in the form of beautiful gold perfume bottles, each with a supply of perfume to get it into action. The Club quarters were attractively and appropriately decorated in the Christmas mode by June Luscher and if we may coin an atrocious pun, we have never seen a luscher arrangement. This is an annual event that is rapidly becoming No. 1 on the social cal-

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endar of the California petroleum industry.

Pioneers Assemble for Powwow

The annual meeting of Petroleum Production Pioneers was held at Sportsman's Lodge in North Hollywood and we have never seen a more interesting congregation of substantial petroleum people in such congenial surroundings. It may perhaps be because we are getting along in years ourself that we find these gatherings becoming more and more of an emotional experience. When you see a couple of old time oilfield buddies who haven't crossed paths in 20 years, suddenly come face to face with each other, it is a pretty moving occcasion. The effect isn't easy to describe but it would take a mighty stony hearted guy to remain completely placid while all this is going on. We personally have many a time had to pretend that our glasses were misty, or that the old beak needed a blow, in order to hide the mopping up of a lachrymal overflow.

Everybody was There

Among the real pioneers, and there were many at this pleasing conventicle, we noted R. A. "Rene" Broomfield, many years top executive for Barnsdall Oil Company in the pre-Sunray days; Frank Hill, former Union Oil Company director of production, a gentleman with a wealth of experience, administrative and operational that dates almost from the turn of the century; Dick Sperry, long time General Petroleum Company vice president, now retired but still widely and well regarded as an authority on oilfield tools and techniques; Dave Faulkner, erstwhile National Supply Company great, pioneer exporter of American oilfield equipment, and one of the organizers of PESA: F. C. Ripley, who came to California to acquire land for the Santa Fe Railway away back when and subsequently managed its oil operating subsidiary, CCMO, until the day of his retirement a few years ago; Ben Parsons, another disciple of Pegasus, now retired, who climbed to high executive office via the production route and established an enviable reputation on the way; and Bill Todd who was one of the first rotary drillers to hit the west, later became a Standard Oil Company executive then a drilling contractor, and is now administrator of the PPP Memorial Fund.

Including Such as

Others observed flitting about seeking their old pals were Jake Thomas, one of the earliest independent land men out this way and an intimate of many pioneer oil executives, including F. C. Ripley, for whom he acquired oil properties; John Augsburger erstwhile Macrate superintendent, now with Tryad Service Corporation, looking right sprightly for a pioneer, but he has the years of experience nonetheless; R. E. "Ed" Stearns, the imperishable vice president of Universal Consolidated Oil Company whose experience also goes back to the beginning of the century and who is one of the few men of his age still active in the oil business; Elmer Bolton, former Ohio Oil Company higher-up and a man with lots of background in the administrative and operational end of the business; and so on and so on.

Also on Deck

We said hello to Milt Kerr, former comptroller of Union Oil Company; J. O. "Mac" McFaddin, president of the B.J.&M. Drilling Company; Tom Selser, the ex-Macconian who now needs all his spare moments for coupon clipping and is the prime organizer and arranger of the Retired Oil Men's Club; Bob Pyles, the daddy of the famed Pyles' Boys Camp; George Coffey, another Universal Consolidated pioneer; Dick Smith, fine old timer from National Supply Company; Ralph Putman, former Union Oil Company field superintendent; Clarence Peck, Union Oil Company field auditor of other days; the brothers Lehman—Jake of Maricopa Boiler works and Julius of Standard Oil Company; and Bill Clark, who was with Dusty Woods when the Lakeview Gusher raised cain around Maricopa back about 1915.

Yours Truly is Surprised

We could continue this recital indefinitely but space is short and time is fleeting. Leave us say, however, before we abandon the subject that your correspondent got the thrill of his not-so-young life at the conclusion of the business meeting when he was awarded a life membership in PPP. It was a complete surprise and a very pleasant one. Even when Prexy Don Pinnell was well into his introduction we didn't suspect what was in the wind. But when it did finally become clear we were probably the proudest man in town and we have since practically worn a mirror on the right rear elevation of our best pants, polishing the gold life membership card before showing it off to our friends.

Flotsam and Jetsam

By way of last minute windup, Joe Gilliland and Ted Bear are back from a trip to Turkey that was colder than a beagle pup's nose. Ted was not too well prepared for the kind of weather that developed but anyway he appears to be in good shape now. Dick Guiberson is down sick in a San Marino hospital and would be real pleased to see his friends. Call Ed Embury at Guiberson headquarters for particulars. We hear too that Neil Norris is not too well at the moment but hope that the New Year will bring him better health. Bill Thornbury is still rummaging around Italy as we write but is expected home any minute. Had a nice session with John and Helen Flanagan who are vacationing here from Calgary, Alta. And that's it for now. The most of the best to all you and yours in 1956 is our sincere wish.

"Three Hitch-Hikers On the Road to Socialism" was the topic of an address by Reese H. Taylor, Union Oil Company president, at the annual meeting of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association at Honolulu.

An inspection trip of Southern California Gas Company installations has been completed by President F. M. Banks and A. B. (Tex) Newby, Kern County division manager. During a stay in Bakersfield, Banks spoke at a meeting of the Kern County trucking industry, sponsored by the Kern County Board of Trade.

With Drilling Contractors

Ned Brown's renowned Brown Drilling Company of Long Beach has completed nine and is about to put on production a tenth well as contractor for Monterey Oil Company operator on the 75-foot in diameter, steel and stone, man-made island off Seal Beach. Monterey, who shares interest in the ocean play with The Texas Company, has set its sights on putting down no less than 70 wells from the island, one and one-half miles from the shoreline. It was explained in Monterey's annual report that to achieve this goal, careful and exacting directional drilling will be necessary and the radial pattern of the holes will assure maximum exploitation of the pool all round the circular structure. The first well on the island, which lies in 42 feet of water, was completed in October of 1954. Production from the nine wells is rated between 1400 and 1500 barrels of 26 gravity oil a day. Strong and rugged, the island is so designed to combat the elements for a half-century or more. Not only is the island the first permanent artificically-made insular drilling site on the Pacific Coast, but the initial type of its kind anywhere. Prior to shipping the special rig to the island, Brown Drilling put it together on a circle on shore of size comparable to the island itself. This was a prelude of make-believe drilling practice toward meeting requirements of working in the limited space on the island.

Pipeline Link

During last July the island was linked with the mainland by a 10,500-foot pipeline system to transport oil developed by the Monterey-Texaco combine's 1255-acre tidelands lease in the area. Island to shore communication is provided by a submarine telephone cable tied-in with the Seal Beach public telephone lines. Along side the rig telephone is a convenient list of persons associated with the drilling program who receive information on developments when requested. Generally a "no dope" program, members of the Monterey family voice their names when calling for data. After the name is checked against the list, the call is returned and the party telephoning supplied with the latest happenings out in the blue Pacific.

First Well

Monterey and Texaco's first well in the island was placed on production for 300 barrels of 26.4 gravity oil a day through a 30/64-inch orifice. This job was taken straight down to 10,-162 ft., but was given the final touch at a plugged back level of 5905 feet. The two companies planned the Seal Beach campaign as long as 11 years ago. Construction of the island was initiated in May of 1952, a move that was delayed by a legal suit to sidetrack the project. For almost a half-year work was delayed until the legal dispute was decided in Monterey's favor.

Jones Oil Enterprises of Cuba, headed by Ted Jones of Los Angeles and owner of the Ted Jones Drilling Company, has reported completion of Jones No. 2 well north of Havana, Cuba. Production was given as at the rate of 100 barrels of oil a day from 20 feet of limestone around 2800 feet. Work of the Jones organization is generally viewed as opening an entirely new area to development north of the Cuban capital.

Reflecting the enterprise of California operators and those elsewhere in the country are the growing number of oil companies which have extended their interest to Guatemala, the aftermath of revision of oil laws in that Central American nation. Among applicants for Guatemalan drilling rights are Union Oil Company of California, Bandini Petroleum Company, Archer Oil Company, Signal Exploration Company, Tide Water Guatemala Limited, Ohio Oil Company of Guatemala, and Esso Standard Incorporated. Also Amerada Petroleum Corporation of Guatemala, Sun Production Co., Continental Oil Co. of Guatemala, Shawano Development Corporation and others.

Not only contractors but all branches of the oil-producing interest are likely to follow with considerable interest the Monterey Park exploratory program which is due to start early in 1956. Drilling will be conducted by Continental Oil Company as operator. This company some months ago acquired a half interest in Alhambra-Monterey Park acreage assembled by Merchants Petroleum Company. The land put together embraces 450 acres, with exploration of the Monterey Park property due for exploration from a one and one-half-acre drill site in the vicinity of Atlantic boulevard and Hellman avenue. The target will be zones from 4000 to 5000 feet. The well will be directionally drilled and it is figured that not more than four sites would be enough to develop the 450 acres in the event oil comes to light. The centralized locations will be well screened and sound-proof and follow the lead of the community operations so successsful at Beverly Hills and La Habra Heights.

There is little doubt but that the recent find of some oil near Tijuana across the line in old Mexico has set off an extensive geological study of areas in Baja California aid elsewhere southward by Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex). Geological investigation has been made in some sectors, but there evidently is much country in Baja California to yet have the inquisitive eye of the oil scientists give it a learned scrutiny. Some say that structures comparable to those known in California lie down Tijuana way. Oil men have called attention to The Texas Company discovery at San Clemente two years ago. The find was not in the commercial category but it constituted the most southerly oil yield in California.

Rocky Mountain NEWS

Colorado—Idaho—Montana—New Mexico—Utah—Wyoming—Western Canada

Colorado

Edwin W. Pauley of Los Angeles, well known oil operator, is extending his activities to the Rocky Mountain region for the first time. Pauley and Bruce Sullivan of Denver have entered into an agreement whereby the Californian obtains a half interest in a million acres of land in Las Animas County. The acreage is in the Raton Basin. The two operators plan a comprehensive drilling program.

An Adams County wildcat, the No. 1 Rosener, has yielded good oil recovery on drill stem tests in the J sand, and the operators, Elpasgar Oil, Balderson Drilling and Shawano Oil and Development, were preparing to perforate at last reports. In one test at 6213-42 feet, the recovery was 600 feet of oil. The well is in sw sw sw, 8-1s-59w and is three miles west of production in the Rosener field and three miles south of production in Muddy Creek. The latter is a gas field, where production has been shut in.

Sohio Petroleum Co. is 5,400 feet in its deep test in the Kejr field in Washington County. The wildcat is the No. 5 "C" Kejr, c ne ne 11-2s-56w and the objective is the Lyons sand. If operator fails to find production in the Lyons, the well will be plugged back to the D sand, where there were indications of oil production.

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A wildcat which first appeared to be a discovery in the J Sand has been abandoned by B. F. Allison after it turned to water. The test was the No. 1 Masden, c sw sw 5-4n-60w, Morgan County. A confirmation attempt also was unsuccessful.

In Weld County, Halbert, Jennings & Simic and Don Rounds Drilling abandoned the No. 1 Nic, c sw sw 9-9n-56w, after drilling to 5,982 feet. This well was drilled as a confirmation of the No. 1 Chapel, c ne ne 17-9n-56w, which produced oil from the D sand and gas from the J sand. Production at the discovery has been shut in.

Commercial production from the Lyons sand at the Fort Collins field in Larimer County has been indicated by drill stem and swab tests of the No. 1 Martinez, sw sw 8 8n-68w. The field is an old one but production up to this time has been confined to the Muddy and Dakota sands.

At the No. 1 Amen, c nw nw 12-7n-54w, in Logan County, Plains Exploration tested the J sand with a recovery of 2,350 feet of oil. The drill stem test, at the interval 4897-4903 feet, also resulted in recovery of 650 feet of water. The well is two miles southeast of Pawnee Creek, where production also is from the J sand.

Wyoming

Sohio Petroleum Co. was top bidder for acreage in the Midway field of Natrona County at a recent auction. Sohio bought one tract of 400 acres at $159.41 per acre and another 400-acre tract for $83.91 per acre. Successful bidders on the various tracts were as follows: No. 1, Mobil Producing, $15.26 per acre; No. 2, Mobil Producing, $20.26; No. 3, Anderson-Pritchard Oil, 2.55; No. 4, Amerada Petroleum, $16.83; No. 5, Western Natural Gas, $45; No. 6,

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Western Natural Gas, $80; No. 7, Sohio Petroleum, $159.41; No. 8, Sohio Petroleum, $83.91; No. 9, L. M. Grace, $16.55. The Midway field is located in 35n-79w and is northwest of Casper.

The U. S. Geological Survey has given approval to unit operation of the Big Sheep Mountain area in Big Horn County. Shell Oil Co. is the operator of the unit, which contains over 5,300 acres. Shell's first test in the area, the No. 1 Unit, w½ nw ne 17-53n-93w, was abandoned after drilling to 1,422 feet in the Cambrian.

Carter Oil Co. was preparing to spud a 6,500 foot test of the Mesa Verde at its Cyclone Ridge unit in Sweetwater County. This unit, containing 12,165 acres, also has recently received U. S. G. S. approval. It is eight miles southeast of the Bison Basin field.

Stanolind Oil and Gas Co. is keeping the No. 1 Sykes-Mobley, c ne ne 25-50n-93w, in Big Horn County, a tight hole. Operator ran production string to 6,790 feet but no detailed information was released. Plans for a test in the Phosphoria or Muddy were rumored but not confirmed at this writing.

Stanolind was testing the No 1 Clark, se se sw 14-51n-93w, southeast of the Torchlight field, also in Big Horn County. There were unconfirmed reports that tests had obtained a recovery of 30 barrels of oil per hour and 300,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

Ohio Oil Co. was coring below 5,390 feet in the Amsden at the No. 5 Cozzens, lot 46, 56n-97w, Big Horn County. In a test at 5299-5318 feet, operator recovered 3,110 feet of black oil in an hour and a half. There also were reports that oil was found in the Madison, but there is no official information. The well is in the Byron field, where Ohio has unitized operations below the Tensleep.

British-American Oil Producing found showings in the Tensleep at its No. 1 Hoenshell-Govt., c nw nw 17-47n-90w, in Washakie County. Operator previously recovered 830 feet of free oil in a test at 5555-5600 feet. The well is a confirmation of a Stanolind extension at Cottonwood Creek.

Montana

Shell Oil Co. was preparing to produce its No. 24-2B in the Pine area of Prairie County from the Stony Mountain and Red River formations. The well, which is located in se sw 2-12n-56e, was drilled to 9,185 feet total depth. The Red River was topped at 9,007 feet.

Phillips Petroleum bought 26 tracts, and Mobil Producing 11 tracts at a sale of lands in Blaine County at the Fort Belknap Indian agency. Phillips paid a total bonus of $56,780, and the bonus paid by Mobil Producing was $10,635. Phillips acquired 9,686 acres at an average price of -5.86 per acre, and Mobil Producing paid an average price of $3.37 per acre for 3,159 acres.

Seaboard Oil will drill a wildcat in the Hinsdale area of Valley County. It will be the No. 1 Loberg, c se ne 26-30n-36e. Hunt Oil and Gulf Oil drilled a duster a half mile south of this location in 1949.

The Texas Company has found oil, but not in commercial quantity,

in the Rudyard area of Hill County. Initial production at the No. 1 DeMartin, c ne sw 34-34n-9e, was one barrel of oil and 20 barrels of water per day. Three fourths of a mile to the north, The Texas Company is testing the No. 1 Anderson, c se sw 27-34n-9e.

Although shows were found in the Madison and Ordovician, Lion Oil failed to find commercial production at the No. 1 Lawrence, c ne sw 29-14n-60e, in the Wibaux field of Wibaux County and has abandoned the venture. The well was carried to 11,707 feet in the Winnipeg.

Murphy Corp. has abandoned its Musselshell County test, the No. 1 NP, c ne sw 9-10n-26e, after drilling into the Amsden. The well was drilled to 3,753 feet total depth. Amerada Petroleum Corp. abandoned the No. 1 Govt.-Taylor, c se ne 22-10n-25e, in the same county. It was drilled to 3,093 feet. Murphy Corp. also abandoned the No. 63 Unit, sw se 27-28n-51e, in Roosevelt County. The well was drilled into the Silurian for a total depth of 8,521 feet.

Utah

The U. S. G. S. has granted approval for the Reynolds Mining Unit in San Juan County. The operator is currently drilling the No. 1 Unit, ne ne ne 4-39s-24e, which will test the Paradox. At last report, the well was below 7,500 feet.

At the Gibson Dome unit of the same County, Reynolds Mining abandoned the No. 1 Unit, ne se ne 25-29½s-20e after testing the Paradox and what is believed to be the Leadville. Some oil was recovered in a test at 3486-3537 feet.

North Dakota

After finding shows in the Charles and Mission Canyon formations, Phillips Petroleum and R. M. Ballard were continuing to test the No. 1 Braathen, ne nw 29-162n-95w, in Divide County. The well was drilled to 7,097 feet total depth. Whether it would be carried to its originally scheduled depth of 7,200 feet was not reported.

Sohio Petroleum will drill a wildcat two miles north of the Bluel field discovery well in Renville County. The new test is the No. 1 Walsh, se ne 12-162n-86w. The No. 1 Ritter-B, nw nw 24-163n-86w, a confirmation to the field discovery, is awaiting completion.

In McKenzie County, Amerada Petroleum will drill the No. 1 Chapin, nw sw 20-152n-95w, which will be an offset to the No. 1 Grimestead, the discovery well drilled by the same operator. The No. 1 Chapin will be drilled to 9,200 feet for a test of the Madison.

Gulf Oil was drilling around 11,040 feet at the No. 1 Bennie Pierre-Federal, nw sw 28-148n-104w, McKenzie County. Operator recovered oil on a drill stem test of the upper Bakken, but cores in the Three Forks at 10,680-10-732 were unproductive.

Nebraska

S. D. Johnson has completed the No. 1 Cizek in Kimball County with a pump production of 450 barrels of oil per day. The well, which is in sw ne sw 3-16n-53w, is producing from the J sand. It was drilled to 5,698 feet total depth. Watkins Oil completed the discovery well, also listed as the No. 1 Cizek, in w½ sw

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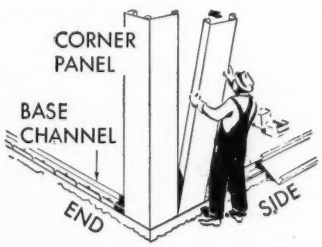

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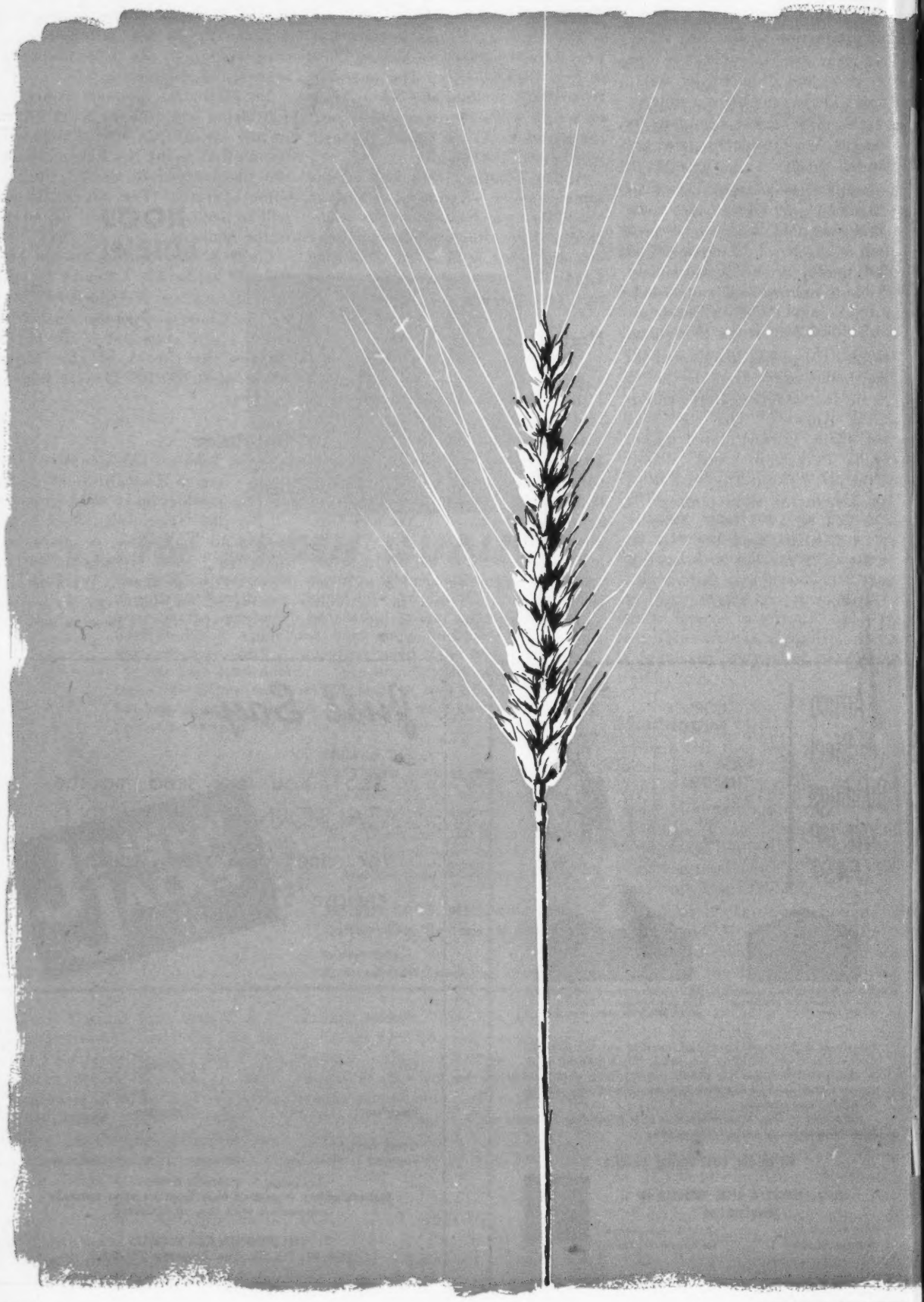

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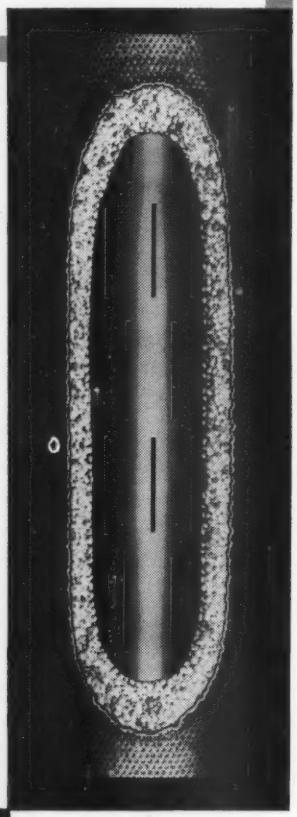

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sw 3-16n-53w, for a pump production of 150 barrels of oil per day. Both Johnson and Watkins Oil are drilling second wells in the area, and each operator has made location for a third. Superior Oil drilled the No. 87-4 Kosch in ne se se 4-16n-53w but failed to find production. It was drilled as a confirmation to the Watkins discovery.

In Hitchcock County, Jones, Shelburne & Farmer have plugged back the No. 1 Fritz to 3,880 feet. It was drilled to a total depth of 4,259 feet and production of seven barrels of oil per hour was reported in swabbing operations in the Lansing-Kansas City (Pennsylvanian) formation at the interval 3881-86 feet.

New Mexico

Phillips Petroleum is drilling a confirmation to the El Paso Natural Gas discovery in San Juan County. The Phillips well, which was last reported below 1,630 feet, is the No. 1 Mary I-Tak-Nip, sw se se 9-25n-12w. Phillips purchased the tract at a Navajo Indian lease sale lat in October.

Western Canada

The Central Leduc Oils Ltd. and Del Rio Producers Ltd. have found commercial production in the Mission Canyon at their No. 16-15 South Ralph in 1sd 16, 15-6-13w2, southeastern Saskatchewan. Operators recovered 1,150 feet of oil in a test of the interval 4633-57 feet. The well is a mile and a half southeast of previous production in the Ralph area.

Stanolind Oil and Gas Co. recently opened two new district offices in Calgary. M. R. Erickson is exploration superintendent for the Calgary district, which territory includes all of Alberta south of Edmonton and all of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. C. L. Cain is superintendent for the North Canadian district, which will include northern Alberta and British Columbia.

Nevada Drilling Operations Reviewed

Since Shell Oil Company in mid-1954 completed the discovery well in Nevada, it has put down seven additional projects of which two were completed as producers, four given up as dusters, and another going on the suspended list. Watched with considerable interest is Richfield Oil Corporations budding drilling job at Lamoille in Elko County and about 10 miles south and east of the town of Elko. This explorer is about 110 miles north of Nye County's Railroad Valley, the scene of the Sagebrush State's first oil production.

Washington Wildcat Set

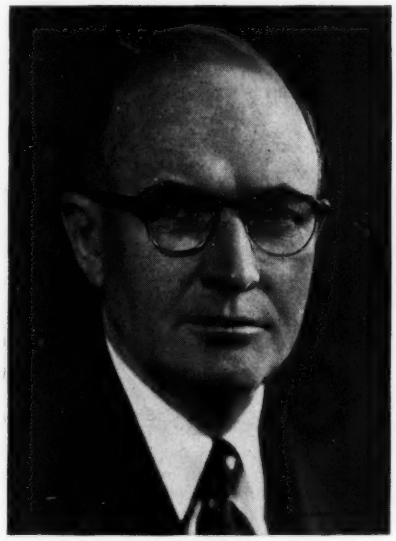
Exploration work under the sponsorship of Standard of California in the state of Washington is at the starting line. The company's Dungeness Unit No. 1 in the Olympic Peninsula is the sequel to three unsuccessful tests undertaken by Standard in the Pacific Northwest during the past year. The two previous wildcat efforts were in Oregon and found nothing commercial.

We have often wondered when King Solomon found time to sleep with the thousand or so things he had to do?

Personalities IN THE NEWS

Wood Named Vice Pres. of The Texas Co.

J. S. Leach, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Texas Company, recently announced that James T. Wood, Jr., has been named Vice President for the Company at Los Angeles, effective January 1, 1956, and Harris T. Dodge and Frank M. Dawson have been elected Vice Presidents.



James T. Wood, Jr.

Mr. Wood, who has been Vice President in charge of Foreign Operations (Western Hemisphere and West Africa) since 1950, will succeed T. H. Webb, who is retiring on January 1, 1956, after 33 years of service with the Company.

Mr. Dodge, General Manager of Foreign Operations (Western Hemisphere and West Africa) since 1954, will succeed Mr. Wood as Vice President in charge of the Department.

Mr. Dawson, who has been Manager of the Company's Purchasing Department, will become Vice President in charge of the Supply and Distribution Department, effective immediately.

Mr. Wood was graduated from Stanford University in 1918 and served in the Army in World War I. He entered the employment of The Texas Company in 1929 as Division Geologist at Bakersfield, California.

In 1930, he was made Assistant Chief Geologist with headquarters in Los Angeles, and in 1931 became Chief of the Lands and Leases Division. In April, 1938, he was appointed Assistant Manager, and in July of the same year, Division Manager of the Producing Department's Pacific Coast Division. In 1949 he was made Assistant to the President and in 1950 he was elected Vice President in charge of Foreign Operations (Western Hemisphere and West Africa).

Mr. Dodge as graduated from Rice Institute in 1919 and was employed by The Texas Company of Mexico, Ltd., in 1920. In 1922, he was transferred to The Texas Company's Casper Works at Casper, Wyoming. He has worked in various managerial capacities for the Company's Domestic Sales Department, and in Foreign Operations for Texaco subsidiaries and affiliates in Belgium, Holland, and the Philippine Islands. He served as Sales Manager of the Company's Export Department from 1944 to 1947, was appointed Assistant to the Vice President in charge of Foreign Operations in 1947. In 1954, he became General Manager of Foreign Operations (Western Hemisphere and West Africa).

Mr. Dawson was graduated from Rice Institute in 1928 and joined The Texas Company the same year as a chemist at Port Arthur Works, Port Arthur, Texas. He later became Assistant Foreman and Assistant Superintendent of Manufacturing at Port Arthur Works. In 1939, he was transferred to New York as Assistant to the Vice President in charge of the Refining Department, and in 1940 became Assistant Superintendent of the Company's Lawrenceville, Illinois, refinery. From 1942 to 1945 he was Refining Manager of an associated company in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 1945, he was named Superintendent of Texaco's Lawrenceville Works. Mr. Dawson was appointed Manager of The Texas Company's Purchasing Department in 1954.

Friends Honor Torrey H. Webb

Torrey H. Webb, who has retired as vice president of The Texas Company, was honored by his friends and associates at a luncheon in the California Club at Los Angeles. Webb served Texaco and its predecessors 33 years and he was born December 7, 1892 at Gazelle, Siskiyou County, California. Host at the luncheon was D. E. Beaton, territorial manager of Texaco's operations in the Western States. He presented Webb with a water-color portrait embellished by paintings of highlights in the retiring oil man's career. Webb received his preparatory studies at the Cambridge Latin School and Phillips Exeter Academy. He was graduated in 1917 from the Columbia University School of Mines with a degree in engineering. He served as a fighter pilot in the first World War and later flew the first airplane ever to engage in air mail service in the country on a flight from New York to Philadelphia. After the war he entered the oil business in Texas, but by late 1922 was in California where he began work as a statistician with a company later affiliated with the present firm. He served successively as engineer, land and lease chief, assistant to the vice president and general manager. In 1938, Webb was named vice president and general manager of The Texas Company of California. This concern was dissolved to become a part of The Texas Company

of which Webb was elected a vice president in 1941. He currently is a director of the Western Oil and Gas Association and is a resident of San Marino. He is married to Mrs. Dorothy Kimball Stewart, widow of Cecil Parker Stewart of New York. Before resuming activities with local business interests, associated with his ranch and petroleum properties, the Los Angeles oil man will spend some time on a traveling junket.

Executive Changes Announced by Ohio Oil

R. G. Kurtz, formerly Los Angeles division geologist of the Ohio Oil Company, has been given a special geologic assignment by Division Manager George Sowards.

R. R. Simonson, geologist at Los Angeles, has been advanced to division geologist succeeding Kurtz.

The new assignments were announced by F. E. Smith, vice-president and manager of production.

A veteran of 28 years' geologic experience with Ohio Oil, Kurtz joined the company at Casper, Wyo. Transferred to Marshall, Ill. in 1936, he became division geologist there in 1941. He moved to the General Office in Findlay, Ohio, in 1945 serving on the staff of the chief geologist. Kurtz was appointed district geologist at San Antonio, Tex. in 1948 and Los Angeles division geologist in 1953. He is a native of Mammoth, Utah and a graduate of the University of Utah.

Simonson has been a member of Ohio Oil's geologic staff at Los Angeles since 1942. He earned his master's degree in geology at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Schaafsma Advances at G. P.

Jan G. Schaafsma has been appointed manager of the laboratories department of General Petroleum Corporation, according to an announcement by T. P. Simpson, vice president and director of manufacturing.

Schaafsma joined General Petroleum in 1934 upon receiving his Master's Degree in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology. He was appointed assistant manager of the laboratories in 1954 and had been acting manager for the past six months. The company's laboratories are located at Vernon.

A registered chemical engineer, Schaafsma is a member of Sigma Xi, national scientific honor society. He holds a patent on a treating process for petroleum and is the author of several technical articles.

Schaafsma resides at 2050 Midwick Drive, Altadena, California.

Officers to serve for the ensuing year were elected at the meeting in Bakersfield of the new Pacific Coast Oil Scouts and Land Men's Association. Larry Graff, Standard of California, was named chairman; George Grimes, Union Oil, vice chairman; and Henry Charles, Humble Oil, secretary-treasurer.

Mr. H. John Eastman, president of the Eastman Oil Survey Co., flew out to Long Beach from his Denver office to greet his old friends in the oil industry, and meet the newcomers. In above photo he is showing off the features of the new Star Recorder mechanical well logging instrument to A. D. Dunn of Warren L. Meeker Co., and Doug Graham of Dunlap and Graham.

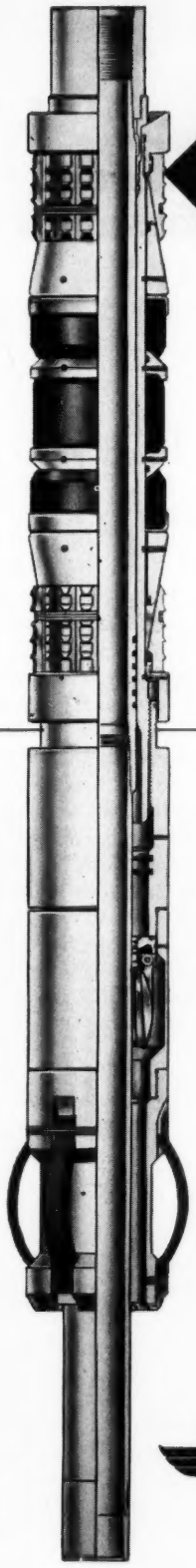
Enjoying the pre-barbecue festivities were l. to r.: Paul Westerlund, president of Servco Corporation, Lou Rogers of Superior Oil Co., Ross E. Wiley, Eastman Pacific Coast Division Manager, and Mr. Werner Mueller of Erkelenz, Germany, who is a partner in Alfred Wirth and Co., largest manufacturers of oil drilling equipment in Germany.

Part of the crowd of over 250 Southern California oil men who were enjoying the barbecue at the Eastman Oil Well Survey Co. offices in Long Beach on November 17th. The occasion was in celebration of Eastman's 25th Anniversary in the oil industry. It was in Long Beach in 1930 that the company started its operations of Directional Drilling and Oil Well Surveying.

Mr. Eastman, left, meets an old friend of his in the industry, Mr. A. L. Saulsbury, of General Petroleum Corporation who has been with GP for 40 years. Looking on is Roland Armell, Eastman district manager at Long Beach, and one of the hosts at the barbecue.

The chow line was a steady stream of barbecue-hungry oil men who enjoyed the beef, beans and all the trimmings that were served by Long Beach office Eastmanites.

Talking over old times in the oil fields, which is always a favorite after chow pastime at barbecues are: l. to r.: Cecil Winslow, General Exploration Co., John B. Sansone, Shell Oil Co., Long Beach, and Clyde Stokenbury, Eastman district manager at Bakersfield.



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Field Development

West Coyote Well Finaled

Drilled to a total bottom and then plugged to 6002 feet, Standard Oil's Murphy-Coyote No. 300 well on Section 19-3s-10w in the West Coyote field is putting out 16 barrrels a day on the gas lift.

Rideout Heights Wildcat Deepening

Aeco Corporation has reported that it may go to approximately 9000 feet with its Rideout Heights Community No. 1 test on Section 17-2s-11w in the Whittier area. The project originally was programmed to explore to about 7500 feet to penetrate the main Miocene objective. It was officially disclosed that the Whittier fault was not reached until the drill was slightly above 5600 feet or about 1100 feet lower than anticipated. Aeco's Los Angeles Basin holdings include a stake in development scheduled at Beverly Hills. Its stake in the Los Angeles suburb was officially reported as made up of one-eighth of net profit from Signal Oil & Gas Company's forthcoming development on an 80-acre lease on the east side of Heath avenue, Universal Consolidated Oil Company's field work is on the west side of Heath avenue. The district is zoned against surface well locations and Signal has completed arrangements with the Hillcrest Country Club whereby drilling jobs will be slanted from the club grounds. Aeco's stake in the play was obtained from Larry Frankley, who assembled the Signal lease block.

Sunset Beach Adding New Wells

Flowing initially at the rate of 55 barrels an hour Sunset Oil Company's Haller Community No. 1 well on Section 20-5s-11w at the intersection of Pierce road and Sims street is a new producer in the Sunset Beach area of Orange County. Success attending the well extended the field 350 feet to the north and toward Meeker production 1800 feet farther on in the same direction. Located about 700 feet north of Superior Oil Company's Holbrook-Isbell-Howard No. 1 discovery well, the new well is credited with taking in 197 feet of sand off bottom of 7877 feet. Sunset's well is immediately east of the company's Carroll lease where two wells are on production from between 6800 and 6900 feet and for a combined yield of 7500 barrels daily. In consideration of the performance of the Haller Community project, Sunset is preparing to carry the two relatively shallow wells on down to the deeper zone. Near the corner of Wintersburg road and Lynn street, Ted Sterling as operator has given the concluding touch to JSW Community No. 1 at 7881 feet for 806 barrels of 29 gravity clean oil and 500,000 cubic feet of gas a day. The E. L. Doheny group holds an interest in the well, which was spudded-in and brought to completion in a month's time. Sand open to production was topped at 7738 feet. In the same sector, Superior Oil Company's Holbrook-Isbell-Howard No. 2-2 is in for 1100 barrels of 2916 gravity oil a day. Location is no great distance from the intersection of Wintersburg road and Algonquin street. The Sterling-Doheny property embraces 16 acres of community leases and naturally several additional drill sites.

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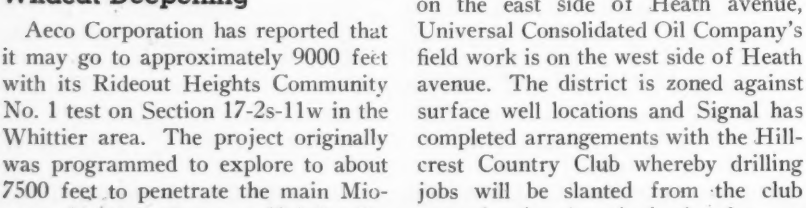

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Tejon-Grapevine Wildcat Drilling

Two miles north of the nearest production in the Tejon-Grapevine field, Reserve Oil and Gas Company's Butler-Wehr No. 72-20 wildcat is being drilled on down at a depth last reported around 4000 feet. The well is on Section 20-11n-19w and it is a northeast offset to C. Frederick Wehr's abandoned Butler-Wehr No. 63-20 test, which was put down six months ago to a total bottom of 9537 feet. It was completed in two intervals at 7130-7450 and 7460-7480 feet and for a while the pump brought up between 50 and 100 barrels daily.

Armona Wildcat Well Scheduled

Under the banner of Donald Frankel, Operator, location has been staked for Macedo and Pinheiro No. 72-24 wildcat on Section 24-18s-20e in the Armona area, Kings County. On Section 18-24s-18e in McLure Valley, Caminol Company is ready to drill its Avenal No. 1 to some 1700 feet for a test of the Eocene formation. It is one location north of Drilling & Production Company's Avenal No. 88, which failed to ring the bell to 4600 feet and was abandoned last summer.

Wheeler Ridge Extender Staked

Richfield Oil Corporation is preparing to drill its KCL D No. 62-31 on Section 31-11n-20w in the Wheeler Ridge area. It offsets the company's No. 73-31 producer and is about 2000 feet northwest of its No. 84-31 discovery. The latter was completed last August flowing 190 barrels of net 40.4 gravity oil, cutting 13 per cent, along with 600,000 cubic feet of gas a day. Producing interval was 10,655-10,758 feet.

Buena Vista Well Finaled

Standard of California has chalked up its 25B No. 515 well on Section 25-31s-23e in the Buena Vista field at a plugged depth of 4650 feet. Drilled to a total bottom of 4910 feet, the well started off at the daily rate of 251 barrels of oil and 57 barrels of water.

San Fernando Wildcat Digs

In the northern part of San Fernando Valley and in the vicinity of Olive View Sanitarium, Ajax Oil & Development Company's McCloskey-Hansen USL No. 1 explorer is drilling steadily at a depth near 2000 feet as this is jotted down. Located on Section 20-3n-15w, the project is in the no dope category and is being drilled under contract by Enterprise Oil Company. The wildcat is no great distance from a number of good fields at Aliso Canyon, Newhall and elsewhere thereabouts. The project is officially described as lying at the edge of granite rocks and, therefore, is being directionally drilled northerly under the granite in an effort to pick up formations containing oil that has been trapped by the overlying dense formations.

Posuncula Well Flows

Shell Oil Company has scored with a good extension test of its deep zone discovery in the Posuncula area of Kern County. The well, Posuncula KCL No. 144-1 on Section 1-30s-25e, started off at the daily rate of 665 barrels of 36.7 gravity oil, cutting .7 per cent water. Drilled to a bottom of 12,470 feet, the well is producing from the Vedder sand. To date all the wells in the Posuncula field, which is in the 10 Section-Strand area, have been taken down on property of the Kern County Land Company.

Rosecrans Test Drills

Edwin W. Pauley is drilling at a relatively shallow level with his SCLE No. 2 test on ground north of the Rosecrans field proper. The drill site is at the intersection of Imperial highway and Budlong avenue in Section 12-3s-14w.

Montebello Test Listed

All set to drill is Shell Oil Company's Bartolo Unit No. 1 test well on Section 5-2s-11w and east of Montebello in Los Angeles County. East of Olinda in Orange County, the company's Olinda Fee Four No. 56-14 on Section 4-3s-9w is drilling below 1000 feet.

Ballinger Canyon Wildcat Abandoned

The Texas Company's Lamb No. 1 explorer on Section 29-10n-24w at North Ballinger Canyon has gone off the board at a total depth of 10,011 feet in shale. Concluding operations were marked by the sidewall sampling and running of electric log.

Standard Oil Co.'s Pfeiler No. 1 near Oxnard being drilled by U. S. Drilling Co. crew. Left to right: M. S. Floyd, driller; P. E. Ingle, cathead; E. C. Dela Barre, derrick; J. R. Hawry, racker; B. R. Rankin, lead tong.

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Lucerne Valley Wildcat Working

Drilling at last reports was proceeding at a relatively shallow level with Lucerne Valley Exploration Company's Laurabell-Norman No. 1 exploratory well on Section 9-5n-1e in the Lucerne Valley area of San Bernardino County. F. G. Walker, company head, said the program calls for drilling a few shallow slim holes before embarking upon a deep test in the area, where several hundred acres are under lease. He told of oil seeps in the area and of high gravity oil shown in most water wells thereabout. Geology was handled by Ralph Arnold.

Chino Hills Well Completed

The L. H. Scott Company, Inc., Scott-Chino No. 4 test on Section 1-3s-8w in San Bernardino County's Chino Hills has been completed at plugged level of 3760 feet for 14 barrels of 13.4 gravity oil a day, cutting slightly. Total bottom is 4188 feet. Near Twenty-Nine Palms, Wallace M. Nelson is reported preparing to run pipe to 810 feet with Brady No. 1 wildcat on Section 21-1n-10e. The project on bailing test from 810 feet to bottom of 1306 feet was credited with showing a little oil. Alton Oil & Development Company's Handley No. 1 test on Section 23-4n-7w is idle at present at 6360 feet.

Redondo-Torrance Production Deal

Bolsa Chica Oil Corporation has purchased from Thomas W. Simmons, Inc., some oil production in the Redondo-Torrance area of Los Angeles County. An official announcement said that 175 barrels of net production figured in the transaction. With the added production Bolsa Chica now owns a net daily output of 830 barrels. The lease also has a number of locations which the company has in mind for drilling during 1956.

Imperial County Wildcat Abandoned

Abandonment at 3161 feet marked the end of Ajax Oil & Development Company's oil search with its USL-Phyllis No. 1 wildcat on Section 2-13s-17e in the Acolita area of Imperial County. William J. Stava's Mesa No. 1 explorer on Section 5-17s-18e southeast of Holtville is still a location at this writing.

Whittier Well On Production

Standard Oil's Central Fee No. 91 on Section 23-2s-11w in the Whittier field has been finaled at a plugged depth of 5040 feet for 88 barrels of 3.7 gravity oil, cutting 6.5 per cent, and 95,000 cubic feet of gas daily. Original bottom was 5784 feet and redrilled depth 5350 feet. The company's Central Fee No. 96 on Section 22 is at completion level.

Santa Fe Springs Wildcatting Due

Western Gulf Oil Company's Clock Country Club No. 1 wildcat east of the Santa Fe Springs field is due to begin any day now. Located on Section 9-3s-11w, the well is projected for 8000 feet.

Boyle Heights Well Finds Oil

After redrilling a half-dozen times and expending $1,500,000 on these operations, Richfield Oil Corporation appears to have found commercial oil with its Boyle Industrial No. 1 exploratory well at Boyle Heights and only three miles or so from the Los Angeles City Hall. Located near the corner of Fourth street and Breed avenue, the well on test above a redrilled depth of 3600 feet is credited with showing no less than 200 barrels of crude oil of 25 degrees gravity.

The redrilling activities entailed a total footage of about 22,000 feet or more footage than was recently attained by the present world depth record well in Louisiana. Some 1300 lot owners spread over about 500 acres are participants in Richfield's Boyle Heights lease. Nearest production to the Boyle Heights wildcat is in fields at Bandini and East Los Angeles. Contractor on the project is Ben Owens Drilling Company.

Fruitvale Outpost Well On Production

The Kern Producers Company's KCL No. 14-15 Fruitvale outpost test on Section 15-29s-27e has been completed for an initial output of 112 barrels of 17.4 gravity clean oil a day through a 14/64-inch bean from 3917 feet. The well, one-half mile northwest of the Fruitvale field, was finaled in the Middle Kernco sand zone. It is on a 200-acre lease, with offsetting property to the west held by The Texas Company.

Tejon Flats Test Moving

Sunray Mid-Continent Oil Company's SP-Tejon No. 23-11 scheduled 12,000-foot test on Section 11-11n-19w in the Tejon Flats area was just about at objective depth at this writing. Reserve Oil and Gas Company hold a stake in the project, which is situated close to the northern limits of Reserve's Tejon leasehold. The venture qualifies as the first well to be put down in the section, the southeast quarter of which formerly was a part of the Reserve lease. Northeast of the Wheeler Ridge field Sunray is ready to launch its 7500-foot test, Springmann No. 22-26, on Section 26-11n-20w.

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Belridge Field Wells Completed

Virsal Oil Company has completed two wells in the shallow North Belridge area. Reynolds-Knudsen No. 8 and No. 10 on Section 36-27s-20e are in from respective depth of 756 and 757 feet for 13 barrels and 15 barrels of 12.5 gravity oil a day.

Huasna Wildcat Ends Oil Search

Having abandoned its Union-Hancock-Humble-Intex Tar Springs No. 1 wildcat venture on Section 26-32s-14e in the Huasna area of San Luis Obispo County, Union Oil Company as operator has converted the 5527-foot project to a water well. Barneburg Oil Company back in 1928 found some oil in the Miocene with a well in the general area.

Antelope Hills Wildcat Working

Drilling is progressing steadily below 1500 feet with Armstrong & Long's No. 27-1 project on Section 27-27s-19e or one and one-quarter miles southwest of the North Antelope Hills area, Kern County. The drill site is also a quarter-mile south of Intex Oil Company's Bolton No. 83, which was completed some months ago for a good yield of gas. The yield failed to endure, however, and the well was subsequently abandoned. In the Antelope Hills field, Edward Nepple wound up his 1955 operations with completion of Nepple-Custodian No. 4-16 on Section 4, and No. 5-85 on Section 5-28s-20e at 1305 feet and 1270 feet, respectively. After flowing at a commercial rate the wells were shut in. They were put down on contract by Barnes Core Drilling Company. The operator now has five gas producing wells in the field.

Mountain View Wildcat Staked

Fred A. Miller has made location for his Mitchell No. 2 test on Section 15-31s-29e in the Mountain View sector of Kern County. On Section 26-30s-29e, Franco Western Oil Company is ready to put down its Lawson-Bennett No. 45A-26, a scheduled 3000-foot test. Terminal Oil Company's Di Giorgio Farms No. 3-1 test on Section 3-31s-29e is in from a plugged depth of 5785 feet for an estimated 40 barrels of 23 gravity oil a day, cutting about 10 per cent. On test some weeks ago from 5685 feet to bottom at 5885 feet the well showed oil in quantity. However, output in a couple of hours displayed a high water cut and it was decided to plug back.

Templeton Test Location Staked

San Luis Obispo County is in line for added wildcat operations, indicated by the staking of location by P & R Associates for its Gates Community No. 1 on Section 1-28s-11e near Templeton. Three miles northeast of the town of Creston, Amerada Petroleum Corporation is close to objective depth of 3500 feet with its H. M. Ambrose et al No. 1 wildcat on Section 33-27s-14e. In the San Luis Obispo portion of Cuyama Valley, C. W. Colgrove is drilling at 3700 feet with Colgrove No. 84-24 on Section 24-11n-28w. Location is on land acquired from Aeco Corporation and about one mile southeast of the Aeco-British American-Shell test which was put down a year ago. This prior wildcat was carried to a total depth of 6626 feet and for a time promised commercial production. Be that as it may, tight and impermeable sand along with other factors worked against what was earlier expected and abanbonment ensued. Under an agreement with Colgrove, Aeco retains 320 acres of the pay embracing some 100 acres.

Standard Oil Co.'s McInnis No. 7 in the Oxnard Field with Loffland Bros. doing the work. Left to right: Leo Hughes, pusher; Bill White, driller; John Pugh, derrick; Chas. Templeman, cathead; Alvie Shurley, racker; R. L. Essary, lead tong.

Caliola Test Rigged Heavier

Larger rig has been moved in to go deeper from present level of 8801 feet with Reserve Oil and Gas Company's Reserve-Union No. 44-33 wildcat test on Section 33-19s-16e in the Caliola area, north of Coalinga in Fresno County. Designed as a Leda and Gatchell zone test, the former apparently showed nothing worthwhile. The deeper target, the Gatchell, is anticipated around 10,500 feet. The project lies on a 2240-acre lease block in which Reserve and Union Oil divide interest. Standard of California Honolulu Oil and Signal Oil & Gas also hold land in the area.

Vallecitos Test Slated

In the Vallecitos area of San Benito County, where Long & Hedges turned up new oil last summer, Intex-Seaboard Oil is ready to start Cedar Flats USL No. 1 wildcat project on Section 35-16s-11e. On Section 28-12s-5e in the Lomerias gas area, Petrolex Inc., has resumed work at 4521 feet with its Justo No. 1 Wildcat.

Tulare County Wildcat Staked

Morganton Oil Company has staked location for a wildcat well on Section 1-21s-27e in the Porterville sector of Tulare County. McGreavy-Neary Oil Company's Holzworth No. 1 well on Section 27-22s-27e in the Deer Creek field is idle at the present time. Total depth is 1146 feet.

Rosedale Field Adds Production

Humble Oil's newest well in the Rosedale field is Humble-Atlantic-Ricard Bros. et al No. 2 on Section 26-29s-26e. It came in from a total depth of 6162 feet flowing at the daily rate of 214 barrels of 31.2 gravity oil a day. The company's Rosedale Operator Unit 2 well No. 1 on Section 23-29s-26e is drilling below 2000 feet.

Standard Takes Lost Hills Leases

Standard of California leasing activity in San Joaquin Valley includes the recent acquisition of oil and gas rights on the town of Lost Hills, close to the Lost Hills field, where the company is strongly represented by ground. Not far from the Northwest Belgian Anticline field, Standard has acquired a lease on 1100 acres from Chanslor Western Oil & Development Company.

McDonald Well Nearing Target

Intex Oil Company is approaching objective depth of 2500 feet with its Layman No. 7 on Section 18-28s-20e in the McDonald Anticline field. Production is being sought in the Point of Rocks oil sand zone.

Beehive Bend Wildcat Shut-In

The Gene Reid Drilling, Inc., Capital No. 1 test in the Beehive Bend area of Glenn County, which for some weeks has been undergoing trials uphole, has been shut-in with gauge not officially available. The well, on Section 5-18n-2w, is bottomed at 5993 feet. In the Afton area, Humble Oil & Refining Company's test is drilling ahead several thousand feet down. Designated as Humble-Honolulu-Signal-Steel No. 1, the project is located on Section 11-18n-1w.

Hamilton Test Drilling Ahead

Drilling is proceeding around 4000 feet with Superior Oil Company's Hamilton No. 1 test on Section 31-2s-6e and between fields at Vernalis and Tracy in San Joaquin County.

Sonoma County Steam Well In

One of California's leading drilling contractors, Gene Reid Drilling of Bakersfield, has successfully completed a steam producing well in Sonoma County for Oil Man Bob Bering's Thermal Power Company. Located in a volcanic sector no great distance from Geyersville and 22 miles north of Santa Rosa, the well was finaled at 612 feet and qualifies as something out of the ordinary for the state. A rotary rig, capable of going thousands of feet, was on the job when at approximately 600 feet live steam blew and was only controlled by gate valves. The steam produced will be used for generating electricity. Many wells of this type have been taken down in Italy and related operating information from the Southern European country proved useful in the work in Sonoma County. More than 30 years ago, cable tools accounted for another steam well near Geyserville, which is reported still in service and with pressure of between 250 and 300 pounds maintained.

Sutter County Wildcat Drills

Plateau Oil & Gas Company has put in motion its Corliss No. 1 exploratory project on Section 1-12n-4e and north of Pleasant Grove in Sutter County. Work is in the hands of the Gene Reid Drilling Company.

South Mountain Test Under Way

Humble Oil & Refining Company is moving ahead in the earlier stages with its interesting test on the Sence property in the South Mountain area of Ventura County. Designed as an extension test of the field to the south, the well lies on a 586-acre lease in Sections 29 and 30-3n-20w. Ted Sterling, leading operator and consultant, represented Ray R. and Grace I. Sence and their daughter, Virginia R. Oviatt, in negotiating the lease. The field, opened 40 years ago, has been extended to the crest of the mountain range on the Santa Paula side and down the side of the range where the Sence lands are located. Prominent in recent development in the area has been Union Oil, Shell Oil and Freeman Fairfield. The former a couple of months ago completed its Culbert No. 26 well for in excess of 300 barrels daily. It is situated about 600 feet north of the Sence property. Union Oil's Culbert No. 27, some 300 feet from the Sence ground. is in from 6195 feet for a yield on parity with that of well No. 26. One quarter of a mile north of South Mountain production, The Texas Company has completed its Richardson-Earl NCT-1 No. 1 on Section 14-3n-21w at 7720 feet. Exact evaluation of the well's power to produce was not available as this is jotted down. Yield is below the Oak Ridge fault in contrast to other production in the area from above the rift.

Orcutt Wildcat Drilling Ahead

R. F. Oakes and F. W. Combs are drilling near 1500 feet with their Careaga No. 2 test on Section 5-8n-33w in the Orcutt area of Santa Barbara County. East of Elwood, Richard S. Rheem as operator has pulled out at 4539 feet from T. B. Bishop No.1 wildcat on Section 14-4n-29w.

McCullough Distributes Xmas Funds

Approximately $226,000 has been distributed by the McCullough Tool Company as a share of the 1955 profits according to an announcement by Mr. I. J. McCullough, President. This sum was distributed among the 787 company employees eligible to participate in the plan. A special Christmas bonus check was also distributed to each of the 250 employees not yet eligible to participate in the Profit Sharing plan. This is the tenth consecutive year in which McCullough employees have shared in the profits of the company.

Total 1955 sales increased by about 25% over 1954 and will exceed $14,000,000 for the first time in company history according to Mr. McCullough. Founded in 1926, the McCullough Tool Company now has 58 branch locations in the United States and Canada plus distributors in oil fields in other countries throughout the world. They are a leading manufacturer of oil tool equipment and a major oil well service company.

$10,000 Grant Given University

An unrestricted grant of $10,000 to the University of Southern California and the setting up of four new technical scholarships of $750 each have been awarded by Standard of California. The money will be used for the SC School of Engineering and is a part of Standard's $100,000 nationwide program of support to private colleges and universities.

Shafter Wildcat Drilling Listed

Geochemical Surveys is all set to drill its Shafter Gas Unit 17 No. 67-7 on Section 7-28s-25e in the Shafter area of Kern County. A year ago Tide Water Associated Oil Company drew attention to the area when it competed Leopp No. 63-18 for 2,345,-000 cubic feet of gas a day through a 16/64-inch orifice from 4295-4305 feet. Location of the forthcoming test is one and one-half miles north of the year-old gas well.

Semitropic Project Digs

Northwest of the Semitropic field in Kern County, D. D. and Dorothy Dunlap are drilling below 4000 feet with No. 45-26 wildcat venture on Section 36-26s-22e. Target depth is approximately 8500 feet. Contractor is Green & Heiser, with S. Irwin in charge of engineering.

Dauphin Anticline Wildcatting Scene

In the primary stages is Signal Oil & Gas Company's interesting Signal-Wood-Callahan-USL No. 77-24 wildcat test on Section 24-21s-13e in the Dauphin Anticline sector, Fresno County. The well, on a 2200-acre lease, is 10 miles west and slightly south of Coalinga.

San Mateo Test Quits

In San Mateo County, where Union Oil and Richfield Oil are preparing to drill a followup to their discovery at Boulder Creek, a shallow well has been abandoned in the San Gregorio area. The duster was Maurice Yates' Yates-Thunderboldt No. 1 on Section 12-7s-5w, which was tabled at 2984 feet.

Avila Wildcat Test Repairing

Equipment repairs occasioned while drilling at a shallow level have delayed normal operations of Max C. and Darwin B. Peebles' Bassi No. 1 exploratory well on Section 29-31s-12e in the Avila area, San Luis Obispo County.

Canada Larga Wildcat Quits

Shell Oil Company's Good No. 1 test on Section 36-4n-23w in the Canada Larga area of Ventura County has been abandoned at 2412 feet. It was a followup to Shell and Bell & Burden's ACL No. 1 on the same section, which was recently completed at a redrilled depth for a current yield of 18 barrels of oil a day, cutting about 10 per cent.

Standard Oil Company's Todd & Pfeiler No. 1 in the Oxnard field with Bell & Burden, drilling contractor. Left to right: Sam Smith, driller; C. H. Hand, derrick; Ben Flud, cathead; Shorty Cowin, lead tong; Cal Cloar, racker; Paul Hylton, mechanic.

Butte County Test Produces

On a four hour test before being shut-in, Humble Oil & Refining Company's Parrott Investment Company No. B-4 wildcat on Section 16-20n-1w in the Llano Seco sector of Butte County put out at the daily rate of 4,380,000 cubic feet from plugged depth of 3549 feet. Total bottom is 3700 feet. On Section 15-20n-1w, Humble is getting down with its Parrott Investment Company No. B-5 and is about ready to hit bottom.

Rincon Project On Drill Agenda

Oceanic Oil Company is about to spud its 7400-foot test under the Southern Pacific right-of-way at Rincon in Ventura County. International Drilling Company is in charge of work on the extension test in Section 17-3n 24w.

Willetts Test Well Site Made

In Mendocino County, where recorded history indicates that oil seepages were noted in that part of California 100 years ago, L. H. Scott Company, Inc., is preparing to drill its Percico No. 1 wildcat on Section 5-18n-13w in the Willetts area.

Goleta Point Test Redrilling

Richfield Oil at last reports was redrilling for the second time around 2500 feet with its Richfield-Honolulu-Signal State No. 3-9-5 test and on Section 30-4n-28w at Goleta Point in Santa Barbara County. Original bottom is 6660 feet, with first redrilled depth 2885 feet. In the Lompoc area, The Texas Company's Intex-Lagomarsino No. 1 wildcat on Section 4-6n-35w has been retarded by a fishing job while digging at 4463 feet.

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Roebling Appoints Republic

John A. Roeblings Sons Corporation, wire rope manufacturers of Trenton, N. J., and The Republic Supply Company of California, concluded an agreement recently under which the latter is now distributor for Roebling products in California, Arizona and Nevada.

The announcement which was made jointly by John J. Pike, President of Republic Supply and Walter A. Huber, General Products Manager for Roebling, is of particular interest to western industry in general and to the petroleum industry of California, since the Republic's 15 sales headquarters and branch stores will make the Roebling products more readily available to the wide territory covered.

A full line of Roebling wire rope, cables and accessories will be carried in stock by Republic Supply, particularly the new Royal Blue Extra High Strength line, which is a development from the Roebling 1105 Rope Wire, a high carbon steel products.

Roebling products, which include electrical cables, round wires, cold rolled steel products and rigging accessories as well as rope, are being used all over the world in the petroleum industry, in manufacturing, and in structural work, including some of the world's most famous bridges.

The Republic Supply Company of California, an independent western firm, was founded in 1910 by P. M. Pike, present chairman of the board. It has served the rapid growth of western industry for forty-five years.

Its 18 sales headquarters and branch stores have been strategically located and stocked so that the need for oil country goods and industrial supplies may be met with immediate service. Republic Supply has had a store in every discovery oil field in California to serve the industry. It carries inventories of more than $6,000,000, from which deliveries may be made overnight, or sooner, to any point in California. Supplies include more than 35,000 items in pipe, valves and fittings; wire rope slings and rigging supplies; shop supplies and tools; abrasives; mechanical rubber goods, including hose and beltings; oil field equipment and heavy machinery.

Republic Opens New Plant

Eighteen hundred oil men and manufacturers from all over the Valley and surrounding territory congregated at the formal opening of the new Bakersfield plant of the Republic Supply Company of California. The new location is at 3600 Rosedale Highway near Pierce Road. Top executives from the firm's Los Angeles Headquarters were on hand to assist Vice-President Glenn E. Pitts, Branch Manager H. E. Storey and Manager of Operations Stephens E. Smith in greeting the guests. Among these officials were P. M. Pike, Chairman of the Board, President John J. Pike, Executive Vice-President Roy W. Johnson, Treasurer A. B. Ripley, Vice-President and Industrial Sales Manager R. M. Chewning, and E. E. Davison, Vice-President and Northern Division Manager. The guests included many leaders in the petroleum industry and equipment manufacturing.

The moving of the firm's Bakersfield headquarters to the present site after 27 years at 3100 Chester Ave., marks an expansion of facilities to give complete service to the petroleum industry of the entire region. Three acres of the plant's five-acre site are devoted to pipeyard and storage area for pumps and pumping units, and the modern warehouse and offices have been planned to make quick and efficient service easy to deliver.

In commenting upon the new plant, President John J. Pike said, "The present demand of the petroleum industry for expanded supply service has not only called for larger quarters, but our firm is anticipating further growth in the whole area by building for the future."

New Handbook Tells Complete Instrumentation Story

Martin-Decker's new Bulletin P-61 is a pocket sized, 18 page booklet titled

THOMAS J. WATSON, JR. *Portrait by Fabian Bachrach*

"IBM was one of the first companies to . . ."

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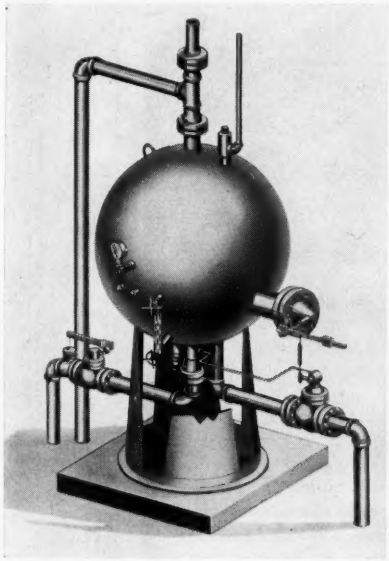
"A Handbook of Drilling-Control Instruments" that with photographs, schematics, and short descriptions, gives a resume of the different kinds of drilling-control and auxiliary instruments used on today's modern rigs and parts they play in the overall drilling operation.

B.S.&B. Introduces New Product

Black, Sivalls & Bryson, Inc., introduces its new Model OGS Spherical Separator for economical field separator of oil and gas.

Designed for wellstream hookup in any direction with top and bottom connections, the "OGS" is a compact unit with convenient access openings. The outlet gas piping passing through the center of the liquid section helps maintain the liquid above freezing temperature.

Utilizing full advantage of spherical characteristics, the BS&B Spherical Separator achieves maximum separation at a minimum pressure drop. Liquid slugs are diverted rapidly to the liquid section.



The large ratio of liquid surface area to liquid volume allows the rapid release of solution gas.

Sizes are available in working pressures ranging from 125 to 2000 psi.

For complete information on the new BS&B Model OGS Spherical Separator, write for your free copy of Catalog 30-26. Black, Sivalls & Bryson, Inc., Product Information Department, 7500 E. 12th Street, Kansas City 26, Missouri.

Radioactive Material Injected Into Oil Well

One of the largest single injections of radioactive material into an oil well (100 millicurries of Antimony 124) was performed recently by Lane-Wells Co., Los Angeles, in the Fruitvale Field, Bakersfield, for Western Gulf Oil Co. The radioactive material, called tracers in the oil industry, was injected along with 4,125 barrels of oil and approximately 400,000 pounds of sand, the largest amount of formation fracturing material ever forced into an oil well.

The purpose of Lane-Wells tracer injection is to help develop methods of increasing production as well as determining where the sand-oil mixture leaves the well and its lateral distribution.

Since the Antimony 124 is injected ahead of the sand-oil mixture and 5 millicurries of Irridium 192 is injected last, Lane-Wells can detect with the gamma ray log where the material entered the formation. If any radioactivity is evident the oil production from adjacent wells producing the injected zone, it will demonstrate migration of the injected oil. From this tracer injection program it is hoped reservoir information can be gained concerning the oil flow pattern and that the production rate of this field will be increased. G. W. Kersten and P. A. Grover, Western Gulf's San Joaquin Valley Area Superintendent and Area Petroleum Engineer respectively, as well as R. H. Pellow, one of Lane-Wells Radiological Procedure Supervisors, authorized by the Atomic Energy Commission, all agreed that to their knowledge this is the first application of liquid radioactive material as a tracer to determine lateral migration of oil injected in a sand-oil treatment of an oil well.

When asked the hazard involved in injecting radioactive material Pellow said, "The hazard is practically non-existent so long as the regulations set up by the AEC are carefully observed and only authorized personnel perform the work."

Kern County Tax Payment

Standard of California has given Kern County a check for $1,712,192.99, representing the first payment of the company's tax bill of $3,425,388.89 for 1955-1956. California's largest oil company is also the biggest taxpayer in Kern County.

G. Blair, Lane-Wells Geophysical Engineer, G. V. Kersten, San Joaquin Valley Superintendent, Western Gulf Oil Co., and R. H. Pellow, Lane-Wells Radio-logical Procedure Supervisor, check well head set up for radioactive injection.

THIS LAUGH OFF!!

"My new boy friend is so good looking and he dresses so well."

"Yes, I know, and so quickly, too!"

"Did you notice Hazel is getting a double chin?"

"Yes, I guess it was too much work for one."

One oil man to another: "Hear you brought in a dry hole last week."

Second oil man: "Please, let's just say I brought in a deep, thin swimming pool."

A man, during the absence of his wife, was giving a poker party for his buddies. Bottles, dishes and cigarette and cigar ashes were scattered around in confusion. At the height of the revelry, the host was called to the door and he came back with a telegram in his hand.

"Boys," he exclaimed in consternation, "It's from my wife. She'll be home in an hour. What'll we do?"

There was a moment of stunned silence and then one man jumped up from the table.

"I've got it," he shouted, "let's burn the house down.'

Professor: "I forgot my umbrella this morning, dear."

Prof's wife: "How did you remember that you had forgotten it?"

Prof: "Well, I missed it when I raised my hand to close it after the rain stopped."

She: "Sir, I'll have you know that I intend marrying an oil man and a gentleman."

He: "You can't. That's bigamy."

"My wife practices occupational therapy on me."

"Meaning which?"

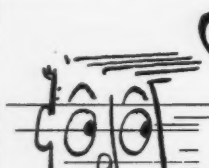
"She keeps me in hot water all the time."

There was once a New Yorker who returned to his home from a vacation in Texas. He greeted his wife by giving her four mink coats, eight new Cadillacs and rolls of money.

"And how were you able to get me all of these wonderful things?" she asked.

"Shucks," he said. "I was in Fort Worth during Halloween and I went out playing tricks or treats."

Duty—Something we look forward to with distaste, do with reluctance, and boast about forever after.



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An ideal tool for recovering all types of junk, for coring purposes, and as a hole straightener. Comes in sizes from 4¾" to 17½" and is engineered to recover all types of bit cones used to drill hole sizes within its range.

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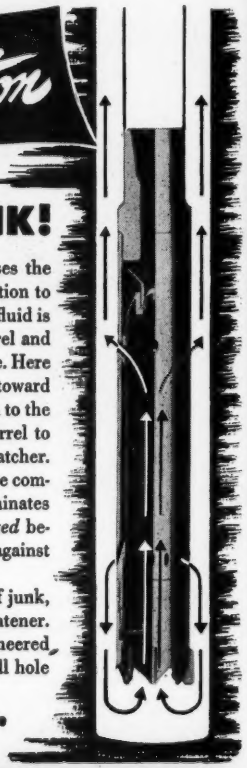

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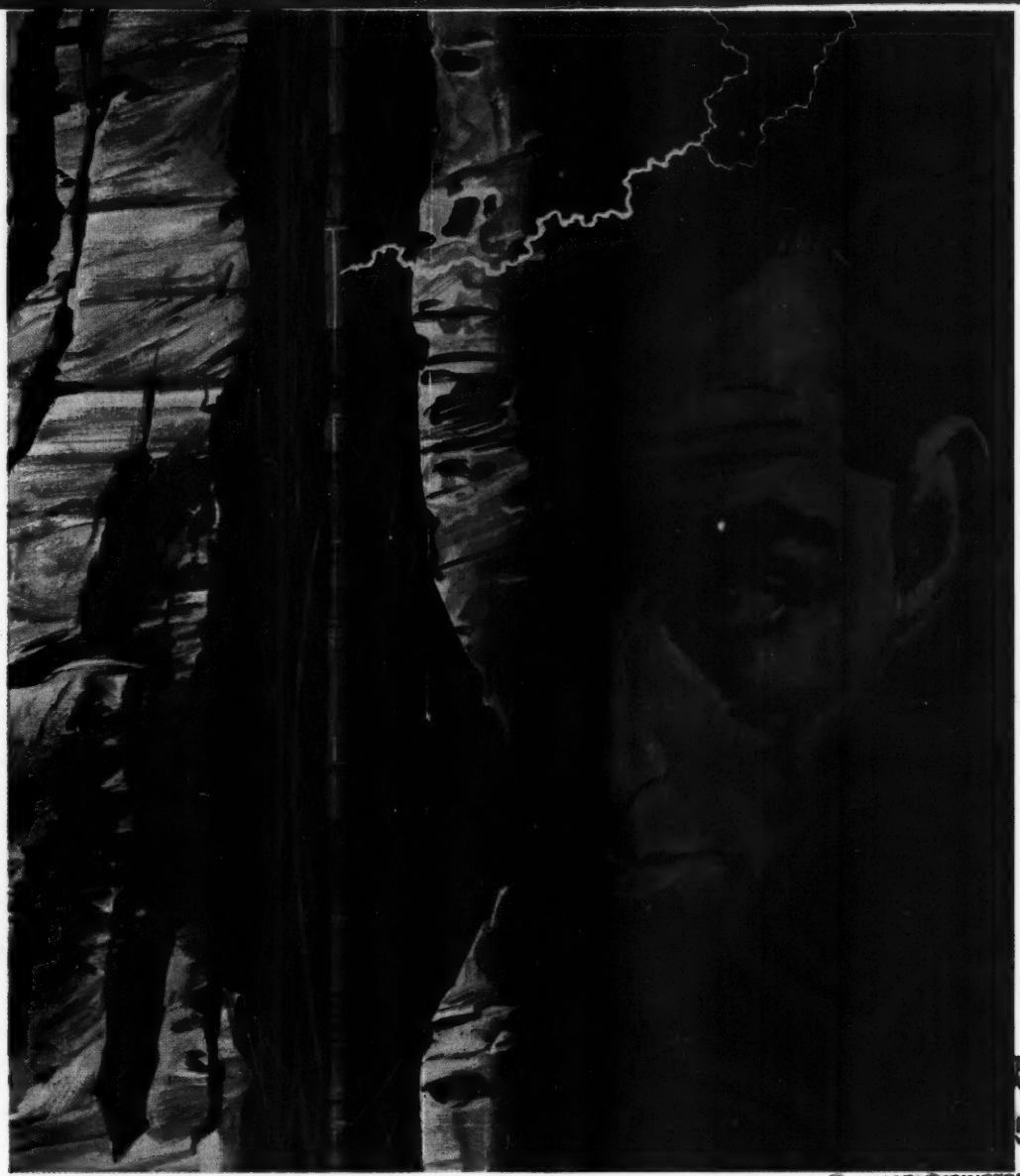

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There comes a time on every well when "it's money in the bank" if you know the shape of the hole. A cavity here . . . a mud cake there . . . in other places the hole to gauge. All this, you see at a glance on the **Schlumberger Section Gauge** Survey—information which is often essential for testing, cementing and log interpretation.

The Schlumberger Section Gauge gives you details about the hole size to a diameter of 36 inches. Its dependable operation has guided thousands of operations to successful completion. When in doubt, call your Schlumberger Engineer. It's best to be sure on every survey.

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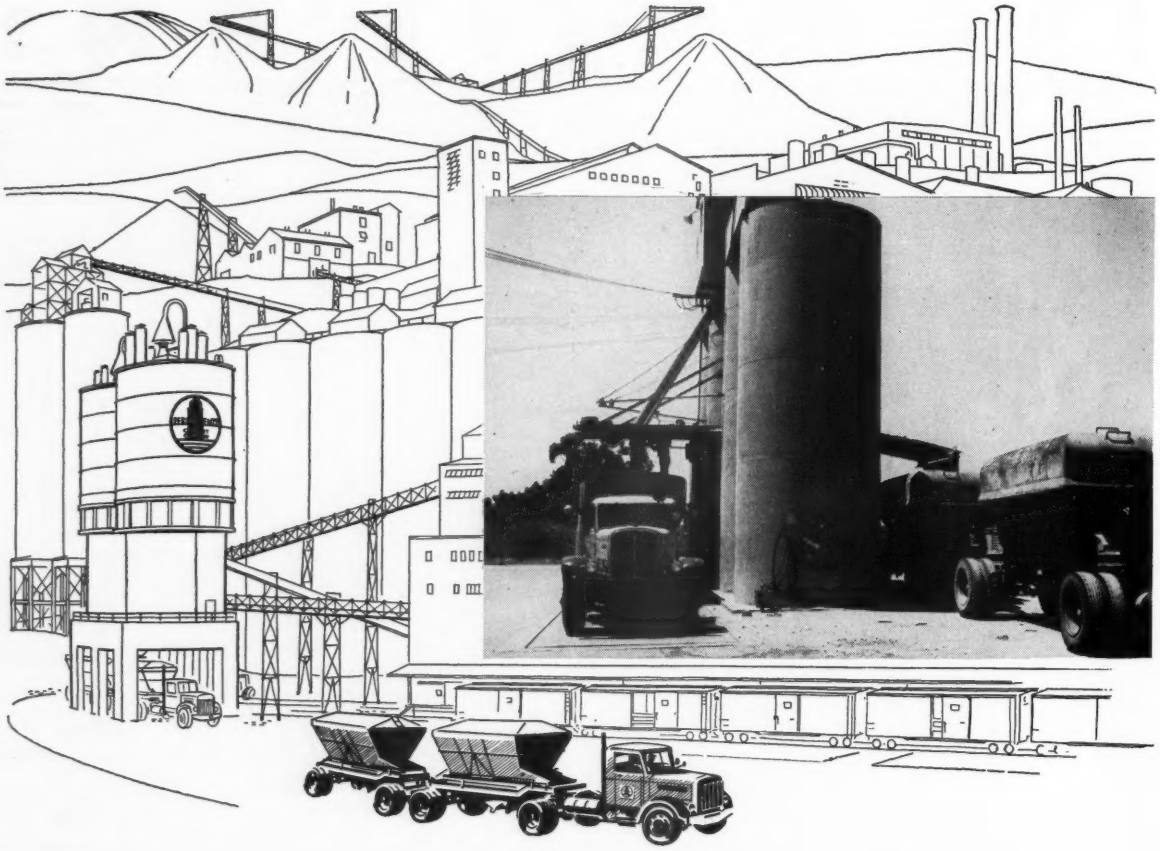

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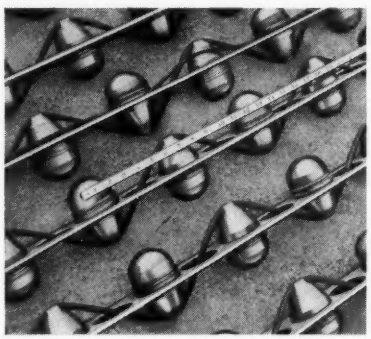
Super Casing Glass Jets Shoot 320 Holes in One Run

A McCullough Super Casing Glass Jet Perforator with Steel Strip Carrier was used to perforate an 80′ pay zone at approximately 9300 feet.

Only one run in the hole was required to shoot the 320 Glass Jets, four holes per foot, through 5½″ O.D. 17 lb. N-80 casing cemented in 9″ hole.



Sections of McCullough Glass Jet Perforators and Steel Strip Carriers. After perforator is fired, the Steel Strip Carrier is removed from the well intact.

After perforating, the well came in for 210 barrels of oil and 2½ million cubic feet of gas per day.

Only two hours were required to complete this job, including rigging up and tearing down time.

Their ability to perforate pay zones of nearly any thickness or multiple zones in a single run in the hole, makes McCullough Glass Jet Perforators with Steel Strip Carriers of particular value to the operator.

Carriers may be loaded full length or sections may be left blank to leave unperforated areas in the casing. Steel Strip Carriers in excess of 100 feet in length have been run with complete satisfaction.

Result: Less rig time; greater efficiency; more economy.

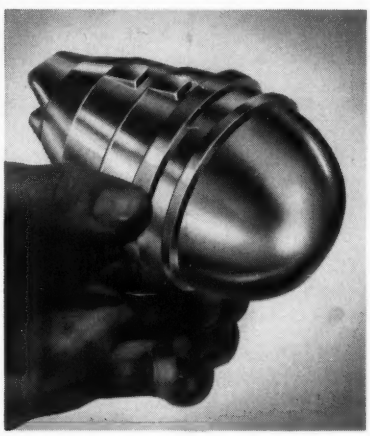
Power Packed Glass Jets Perforate for 15,500,000 CF/D

McCullough Standard Casing Glass Jets Shoot 336 Holes in 4½″ O. D. Drill Pipe Liner at 15,000′

Deep penetrating McCullough Standard Casing Glass Jets turned in a highly successful, time-saving performance in a deep New Mexico gas well, according to a recent field report.

After drilling to a total depth of 15,120 feet, 3,010 feet of 4½″ O.D. drill pipe was set as a liner. The hole was full of 13 lb. mud and hydrostatic pressure at the perforating depth was 10,200 lbs.

Two runs were made with 2¾″ Standard Casing Glass Jets in Steel Strip Carriers; one 45 feet in length, the other 39 feet. Tapered weights were run on the bottom of the Steel Strip Carriers to enable them to enter the top of the drill pipe liner at 12,062 feet.



McCullough Glass Jets are the best jet perforating process available. They have more power; penetrate deeper through multiple strings of casing and extra thick cement sheaths into hard and extra hard formations. Holes are larger, more uniformly round and are straight sided almost the entire depth of penetration. This means more exposed formation area, greater production, more oil!

336 Standard Casing Glass Jets, four per foot, were fired in 84 feet of zone between 14,942 and 15,026 feet.

On test, the well produced 15,500,000 cubic feet of natural gas per day—a new gas field discovery.

Several factors contributed to the operators full satisfaction with this job. First, the use of 2¾″ Glass Jets in Steel Strip Carriers made it possible to run inside the restricted I.D. of the 4½″ drill pipe liner and gain effective penetration through the thick walled pipe with the full power of the Standard Casing Glass Jets. McCullough Glass Jet Perforators use a more powerful shaped charge in relation to their outside diameters than any other jet perforators available.

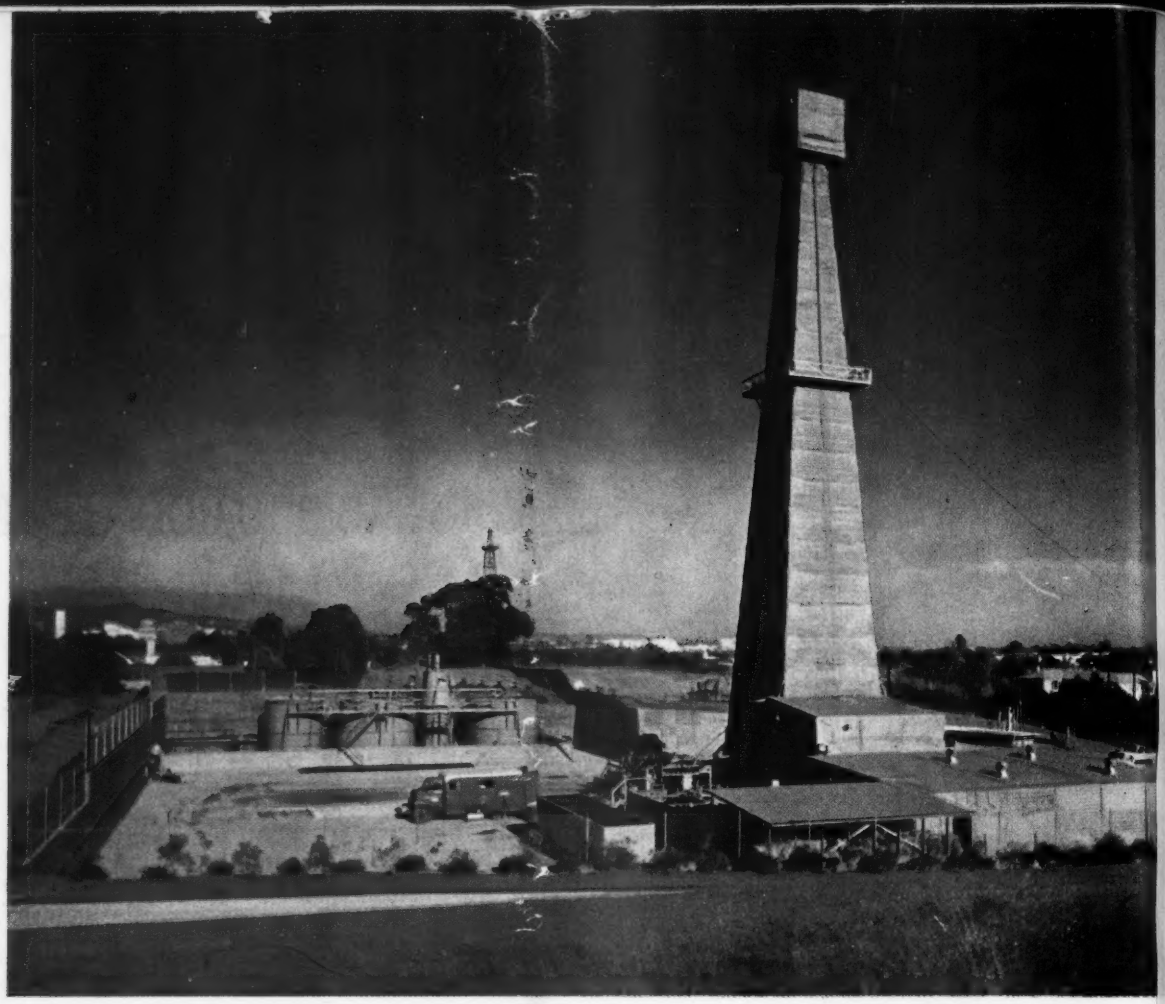
Second, the entire job including rigging up, two round trips to 15,000 feet and tearing down, took only five hours rig time—an important saving in costs.

Third, as usual both Steel Strip Carriers with weights were removed from the well intact and no junk was left at the bottom of the hole to complicate future operations.

McCullough® TOOL COMPANY

Cable Address: MACTOOL

LOS ANGELES
HOUSTON
EDMONTON



...wrapped up and delivered by MACCO

When the Universal Consolidated Oil Company was granted a permit to drill on the Twentieth-Century Fox Motion Picture Lot, it was issued under the most stringent ordinance requirements ever imposed on any oil company.

The drillsite is located in one of the finest residential districts of Los Angeles and the operation had to be quiet—quieter than any previous drilling operation.

With this in mind, Macco furnished and erected a 136-foot steel derrick and covered it with especially developed fire resistant sound-proofing material—vinyl-coated glass cloth containing a filler of 1½ inch thick spun glass. To provide additional quiet, the Universal Consolidated Oil Co. is using a completely unitized electric drilling outfit.

By employing the most modern and effective directional drilling techniques, the operations are conducted from a drillsite area 200 feet by 300 feet. Wells are spaced at 10-foot surface intervals and are drilled from a continuous type cellar, 170 feet long, especially designed and constructed by Macco to accommodate 14 wells. Upon completion of one well, derrick and draw works are skidded and drilling is begun on a new well within a 24-hour operating period.

Macco has also excavated the entire drillsite, removed thousands of yards of earth, engineered proper drainage and erected a reinforced concrete retaining wall which varied in height from four to twenty-one feet. A combination field office and residence was built, the working area gravel surfaced, and a heavy duty Macadam surface approach road completed.

When the drilling program is completed, and the derrick removed, the drillsite will be screened with plantings and shrubbery. There will be no visible evidence of operation inside the drillsite area from any adjoining properties.

Macco's contribution to what is undoubtedly one of the most progressive and advanced residential drilling operations ever developed, is typical of the packaged operation and the complete service offered by Macco to the Petroleum industry.

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